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ART. I. *Narrative of a voyage of the ship Morrison, captain D. Ingersoll, to Lewchew and Japan, in the months of July and August, 1837.* By S. WELLS WILLIAMS.

THE object of this voyage was to carry back to their country seven shipwrecked Japanese, who had been residing at Macao for several months, and whose return, it was reasonably supposed, would form a good excuse for appearing in the harbors of that empire. Three of the men are natives of the principality of Owári, lying about 150 miles W.S.W. of Yédo, the capital, and formed part of the crew of a coasting junk of nearly 200 tons burden, which left the port of Toba, in the principality of Sima, near Owári, in November, 1831, bound for Yédo, laden with a cargo consisting partly of rice, and partly of tribute for the emperor. A few days after their departure, they encountered a heavy gale, which carried away the mast, and drove them out of sight of land into the Pacific ocean; the unfortunate crew, entirely ignorant of their course, let the vessel drift wherever winds and currents would carry her, and after being tossed about for fourteen months, were cast ashore near the Columbia river. During this long time, they subsisted chiefly upon the rice on board, and on what fish they could catch; eleven of their number died of scurvy, and the remaining three were nearly helpless when they landed. The Indians in those regions plundered them of everything, and kept them captives for several months, when their situation and history became known to a benevolent factor of the Hudson's Bay Fur Company, who released them, and took measures to send them to England. After experiencing much kindness from this gentleman, whom they delight to remember, they left the Oregon territory for the Sandwich Islands, from whence they went to London, where much interest was taken in their welfare; from thence they were sent to China, and here taken under the care of the Superintendents of British Trade,

with the hope that they might ultimately reach their homes. They arrived at Macao in December, 1835, and took up their residence with Mr. Gutzlaff, who regarded it a good opportunity to acquire some knowledge of their language. The names of these wanderers are Iwakitchi or 'Lucky Rock,' aged 33 years, who left a wife and family in Mía, a town of Owári; Kiukitchi or 'Lasting Happiness,' aged 20, and Otokitchi or 'Happy Sound,' aged 19; these two are from Stágori in Owári.

The remaining four men left Amákousa, a port belonging to an island of the same name, lying 40 miles S.S.E. from Nágasaki, in December, 1834, in a small junk; they were driven off to the southward in a gale which carried away the mast, and, after 35 days, they were cast ashore on the north coast of Luçonia. Here they fell into the hands of the natives, who plundered them of every article, and, after keeping them a short time, transferred them to another village; from which, after a variety of hardships and adventures, being passed from one village to another, they reached Manila. They embarked on board a Spanish vessel, and landed at Macao in March, 1837, destitute and friendless; and, Japanese like, were on the point of committing suicide, but happily were directed to Mr. Gutzlaff's house, where they met their countrymen, and with whom they resided about five months, supported and clothed by Messrs. Olyphant & Co. Their names are Siauzau, or 'Heart,' aged 28, the captain of the junk, who has left a wife and family in Káwáshiri, a town 50 miles east of Nágasaki in the principality of Fígo; Kumátaru or 'Bear,' aged 28, and Ríkimat, or 'Strong Fir,' aged 16, both from Símaabára, a large town in Físen not far from Nágasaki; and Gíusabaru, or 'Fortunate,' aged 25, who is from Takáshí in Fígo.

It was considered, that so good an opportunity of producing upon the Japanese government a favorable impression of the character of foreigners, and perhaps of inducing them to relax their anti-social policy, as was now presented, ought not to be neglected; and this, added to the fact, that the United States of America were almost unknown to the Japanese, determined Messrs. Olyphant & Co., to attempt the experiment at the time the men were returned. It was hoped the exclusive policy of the nation had become somewhat weakened during the long period that had elapsed since a foreign vessel had visited any port besides Nágasaki; and that the influence of curiosity, and the nature of the errand, would at least secure a courteous reception. In order to take advantage of any opening, a small assortment of cloths was put on board, and a great variety of patterns of different cotton and woolen fabrics, which from their adaptation to a temperate climate, were calculated to attract the attention of the Japanese, and induce them to trade. A list of presents was added, consisting of a pair of globes, a telescope, a barometer, a collection of American coins, some books, and a few paintings, among which was a portrait of Washington. Documents explanatory of our object were drawn up in Chinese; one of which stated the names and residences of the seven men, and a few notices of their adventures;

another gave a short account of America, its commercial policy, that it possessed no colonies, and that the men were returned in a vessel of the country where they were wrecked; and a third gave a list of the presents, together with the proposition, that, if it met the approbation of the court, one of the party would remain in the country to teach the meaning of the books. Dr. Parker accompanied the expedition, provided with a stock of medicines and instruments, and a number of anatomical plates and paintings, which he thought would attract the notice of a people, who hold the healing art in high estimation. He was also furnished with a paper stating his profession, and his willingness to practice gratuitously on all who had diseases. I was attached to the expedition as naturalist.

From all that could be learned of the reception of former visitors, as well as of the regular Dutch traders at Nágasaki, the guns and ammunition were always taken out of a vessel as a previous step to all negotiation. If any cannon were carried, it was the fixed resolve not to use them as defensive weapons, whatever might be the provocation, but rather to retreat; and, lest this resolution might be too severely tried, the ship's armament was left at Lintin. But above all, it was desirable to try the experiment of a mission to the Japanese without arms, and ascertain what reception those who went in peace and good faith would meet. The benevolent nature of the errand, the offer to cure the sick, the commercial character of the vessel, and the presence of Mrs. King, all combined to favor the trial, and prove to the Japanese the sincerity of our declarations of friendship. It would, moreover, tend to settle a question which has often been debated among some Christians, who have affirmed that the attacks which foreigners have received from the natives of countries little visited, were owing chiefly to their fears being excited, and to their being induced by an array of force to stand on the defensive.

The party embarked on board the Morrison, captain D. Ingersoll, on the evening of the 3d of July, and the next morning left Macao Roads. When passing through the Bashee channel, we encountered a gale, which was afterwards ascertained to have been much more severe in the Formosan channel, and the seas to the northeast. A short time before our departure, the ship had discharged a cargo of rice, some of which had escaped from the bags into the limbers of the hold, where it underwent a partial fermentation and decomposition, sending off an effluvia which was exceedingly offensive. This being partly composed of nitric acid and ammonia, united with the lead in the paint, and the plate and other silver, and changed them in a few hours to a dull black color; the green paint was scarcely discolored. The salt in the sea-water appeared also to be partially decomposed, and to give off muriatic acid,—judging from the effect the air had on the gold of our watches. We were told that when the ship was laden with rice, it was dangerous to breathe the hot air which came out of the hold, more than a few moments, as a few inhalations caused faintness and coughing. The water which was pumped from the ship threw off an insufferable odor of ammoniureted hydrogen, and was

quite black at first; but by means of a stop-cock in the stern, and continued pumpings for a few days, the ship became sweet.

July 11th. About 6 o'clock A. M., the islands known by the Japanese name of Madjicosima (Hajicosima) or Eight islands, were in sight. This group lies between latitude 24° and 25° north, and longitude 123° and 125° east, distant from Lewchew S.S.W. about 180 miles, and is but little known. Captain Broughton, in H. B. M. schooner *Providence*, was wrecked on Typinsan, the largest of them, in 1797, and the natives treated him kindly and assisted him to get to Macao. We passed about four miles to the southward of Typinsan (or Taeping shan), which presented a moderate elevation, with a flattish outline, and abrupt shores of a whitish color, surrounded with coral reefs. No boats were visible, nor could we discern any cultivation, though trees were seen on the eminences. The Japanese on board knew the group, and said, it is inhabited by people who speak their language, are few in numbers, and have little intercourse with Japan. We had intended to land on one of these islands, but during the night a current carried the ship too far to leeward to make this practicable; and with a fresh breeze we bore away for Lewchew. This group deserves more attention than it has yet received; for a thorough examination of the inhabitants, their language, and policy, would probably tend to throw much light upon one of the most interesting questions in this part of the world, the character and extent of Japanese influence.

July 12th. In the morning, about 6 o'clock, the southwest point of Great Lewchew was in sight, bearing E.N.E. A strong northeasterly current had been experienced since coming through the Bashee channel, and we were happy to find the ship well to windward on making the land. We passed along the southwestern shore at the distance of five miles, busily engaged in examining the picturesque scenery. The land gradually ascended from the beach in gentle undulations to a moderate elevation, presenting a pleasing alternation of woodland and fields, rendered still more charming at this time by a bright sun. The extreme southerly point of the island is known by a singularly cleft rock, separated from the mainland about 100 feet. Along the whole line of coast the surf was breaking on the coral reefs, which in some places extended out for miles, showing a crest of foam as beautiful as the reefs were dangerous. Within the reefs, a few fishermen were seen, some of whom had nets suspended from poles, which they elevated and depressed as in China. Their small canoes were hollowed out of logs; each contained two or three persons, and as we passed near them, the men suspended their occupation to gaze at the ship; but we met none, as captain Beechey did, who would come on board, or fasten their fish to our hooks.

About half-way between South Cape and Abbey Point, we noticed a remarkable rock, resembling in its circular form an arc of an amphitheatre, an illusion that was heightened by the resemblance the loose stones and stunted trees on the top bore to seats and persons. The extent of this "fragment of a Coliseum," was about three fourths of a

mile, and was upwards of 100 feet in height. Other grotesque forms were elsewhere seen; and Abbey Point was so named from the resemblance of its square rocks to ruined towers. On most of the rocky eminences near the beach, a prolific growth of pandanus was observed, and some small trees; and, farther inland, pines and tall trees were seen skirting the hills. Two or three small villages, almost of the same color as the rocks about them, were also observed in the ravines close to the beach.

At 11 o'clock A.M., we dropped anchor in Napa keäng, distant about one mile from the shore, Capstan Rock bearing S.E. by S. Here we remained several hours before a boat approached the ship, a circumstance we could not avoid contrasting with Beechey's account of the many boats that clustered around the Blossom before she came to anchor. With our glasses, we could discern the people gathered in groups on the tops of the houses, and along the shore, watching the ship with great attention; and now and then parties were seen hastening in various directions, bearing among them, as we supposed, the insignia of some official personages.

The appearance of the landscape lying before us was truly beautiful, and one which would engage the attention of the lovers of quiet scenery. The monotonous aspect of continued cultivation was broken by the clumps of trees which adorned the hills, and overshadowed the houses; and the neatly executed cemeteries, the junks bedecked with gay flags, and the towns of Napa and Pootsung, showing their red tiled roofs, combined to diversify the foreground. The curve of the bay was well defined at its extremities by the rocks at Abbey Point, and the heights near Barnpool; and a range of hills, rising in peaks, began at our right, and with partial interruptions, continued around the horizon, nearly to our left, where it stretched off to the northward. The country on the right rose gradually from the beach, apparently devoted to agriculture; and was separated from Napa by an inlet, which was defended at its entrance by two square stone buildings with loop-holes, and contained several junks lying at anchor. On one side of this inlet, a long low stone causey extended from the fort across the marshes, having in it several bridges, through which the water may flow off into the stream at high tides, and connecting the landing-place and forts with the city of Napa. North of the causey and near the shore, between the remarkable eminences of Capstan Rock and Sepulchre Point, lay the public cemetery, the horse-shoe tombs rising in galleries, the glare from their white surfaces a little broken by the trees scattered among them. Farther to the northward was the village of Pootsung, with its causey and boats; and, in its rear an extensive grove of tall trees, forming a contrast to the scenery near the beach. Still farther inland, was the high range of Onnodake; between which and the grove we could discern an undulating campaign, highly cultivated. Few or no boats were moving in the bay, but the view was enlivened by the groups of natives, and we long gazed at it with increasing pleasure.

At three o'clock, we were visited by two boats from the shore, the largest of which was about twenty five feet long, and narrow, shaped like a scow with both ends open, and paddled by a dozen half naked natives. It contained several persons, whom we immediately knew to be officers, from the respect paid to them, and who with much difficulty contrived to ascend the sides of the ship. They were dressed in loose flowing robes of grass-cloth, somewhat stiff, marked with a blue and white plaid, having very large sleeves, and bound at the waist with a girdle, to which were suspended a pipe and tobacco-pouch; the whole forming an agreeable costume, and very appropriate in a climate naturally warm. Their long black hair was oiled, neatly done up in a tuft on the top of the head, and fastened with two pins, *kameshashe* and *oomeshashe*, usually made of brass or tutenague; the former was a square pin, having a kind of screw for holding the hair, with a head resembling a six-petaled flower attached to it; the other was a pin about eight inches long, in its shape much like a marrow-spoon.

As soon as they reached the deck, each made a very low bow *à la Chinoise*, and the principal man immediately inquired, if "we could speak Chinese?" To this we replied in the affirmative, and requested them to be seated. This ceremony, however, was a matter of some difficulty, but was settled after a while by all sitting down simultaneously at a table, on which paper and pencils were placed. The same individual, who was a fine looking man, rather taller than his companions, then asked, "what is your business in Lewchew?" To this we briefly answered, "that we had come into the harbor to stay a few days, visit the people, and procure some refreshments." They then asked from what country we were, how many men there were on board, and other similar inquiries; and wrote down all the answers.

One of the party now pulled a book out of his bosom, (which was their pocket, formed by the folds of the dress overlapping,) and after looking at it a moment, said in broken English, "Dis what ship? Dis Amelekan ship?" "Yes," we told him. "How many mans?" "Twenty-eight men." "Plenty mans! Have got guns?" "No; this is a merchant ship." "Plenty mans! Plenty guns! I talkee mandariu;" and then he sat down, and entered into conversation with his associates. We then asked the party if it was not Anyah who spoke, to which they assented; and by their countenances seemed to wish to know where we had learned his name. Anyah, finding that we understood Chinese, seldom had recourse to his vocabulary after this experiment; but the similarity of this speech to the one spoken by him as reported by captain Beechey, amused us all. He had evidently forgotten the greater part of his English: but on one occasion, subsequently, when one of the chiefs was sea-sick from the motion of the vessel, Anyah silyly remarked that he was a "litty drunk."

The chief then made several further inquiries about the size of the vessel, the length of our passage, whether we had come direct from

America, the names of the captain and passengers, &c.; ordering all the answers to be written down. Concerning Mrs. King, who happened to be seated on the deck during this conference, the Lewchewans asked several questions, the replies to which were also written down; and it was worthy of remark with what deference they regarded her, and how carefully they avoided the least rudeness. Whatever may be the cause, the inhabitants of this group, so far as regards true politeness and a desire not to offend, present an advantageous contrast to their neighbors, the Chinese; though, if we survey their whole social system, they cannot be called so polished a people. They informed us that there had been a typhoon five days before we came in, which had destroyed all the fruit trees, and done much other damage: this information explained the cause of the heavy northerly swell we had experienced. These tempests, they said, happened during all the months from April to September, and were generally very mischievous when they occurred. We asked where the Chinese junk was bound which had just left the harbor; and were told that she was a junk belonging to Lewchew, bound to Taetaou, laden with sugar. This vessel, about 200 tons burden, left the harbor shortly before the chiefs came on board, and was in her form and rigging, like a Chinese junk; she had on her stern in large characters, *shun fung seung sung*, "may favorable winds attend us."

Sweet wine and cake were now handed around, and whenever one of the company took anything from the plates, he would express thanks by carrying it to his forehead, at the same time making a slight inclination of the head. While partaking of the refreshments, one of the chiefs, seeing his attendants wandering over the decks, said, "Many of the low mariners of Lewchew are thieves; it will be advisable for you to prohibit them;" but we told him that we had no fears on the score of their honesty. Some of them soon made the acquaintance of our Japanese, and a number gathered around them, carrying on an animated conversation, in which we could not perceive that there was the least difficulty in their understanding one another. We ascertained that there were seven Japanese junks in port, and that the number which visited Lewchew during a year was considerable.

Anyah, hearing us converse together in English, again asked if the vessel was not an Englishman. We told him that America was originally peopled from England, but was now independent, separated from that country thousands of miles across a wide ocean; that the Americans had many merchant vessels, and were friends of the Lewchewans. We endeavored to show them the relative position of the two countries on a map, but Anyah still looked dissatisfied; nor was it wonderful, if the anomaly of two different states at such a distance from each other, speaking the same language, should cause a doubt in the mind of one whose knowledge of other countries was probably limited to Japan, China, and Corea. Some one then wished to know how many days' sail it was from America to England, and from America to China; and how many inhabitants our country contained.

Anyah now changed the subject by observing that there was some water for the ship in another boat; and proposed to his companions to depart, promising to return on the morrow.

None of our visitors wore the hats of office called hatchee-matchee by cap. Hall, nor did we see any during our stay. They had straw sandals like those used among the Japanese, which have one band passing over the instep, and another attached to it coming from between the two inner toes; but no stockings or trowsers. The common people were merely provided with a cloth about the middle, and were generally decent and cleanly. Some of them went aloft, but did not venture far; others examined the anchors and cables; and others walked into the cabin, looking at the books, seating themselves in the chairs, and appearing quite delighted with the strange objects around them. And although there was unlimited freedom granted them in going wherever they pleased, not the smallest article was missed. The chief also amused himself with looking about the ship, and inspecting some paintings, which Dr. Parker had, of remarkable surgical operations. After attentively looking at them, he asked "If the patients recovered?" and seemed gratified at hearing that they did; and we added, that the doctor was ready to perform similar operations in *Lewchew*, or prescribe for any sick persons who should be brought to him. The whole party then took their leave, but we listened in vain for the boatmen's song of *ya-ha-ma-shawdy*, spoken of by Beechey.

Towards evening we went ashore at Abbey Point, and, landing on the coral reef which there stretches out from the land, made our way over a beach composed of comminuted coral and fine sand. For several rods, we passed through patches of millet and sweet potatoes planted in this dry soil, and both apparently of luxuriant growth. In the lagoons on the reef we met a small fish of a beautiful blue color, and several black polypi, both of them difficult of capture; together with a few small plants which had encroached upon the rocks. As soon as we landed, the natives began to run together in crowds, and among them were four or five officers, who requested us to go back to the ship. We walked quietly on towards the rocks on the Point, meantime sending one of the sailors to a house standing at a distance, in order to procure a cup of water, and were soon under their friendly shade. The crowd, constantly increasing by fresh recruits, now stood gazing at us, especially regarding Mrs. King, who in this and all our subsequent walks attracted much notice, yet who never experienced any incivility from the multitudes around her. The messenger returned, bringing some water, and followed by a female from the house, who approached with timid steps. To encourage her, Mrs. King went forward and took her by the hand, at which the native exhibited the back of her hand, marked with blue lines on the fingers, and a square on the wrist, a sign of the married state. Her hair was loosely tied up in a tuft on the side of the head, secured by a single pin; but otherwise her dress was like that of the men. This scene was observed by the by-standers with great attention, and evi-

dent pleasure; and the whole accompanied us towards her house. The ground was strewn with loose blocks of coral of all sizes, most of them overgrown with ivy; the pandanus and dwarf palm grew wherever there was soil; and grasshoppers and other insects flew about us in great abundance.

On reaching the hut of the native female, we found a low bamboo cabin, with no opening besides the door, and in its general appearance resembling those in which the lowest classes of Chinese live. The floor of earth was covered with a matting of bamboo, and a slight hurdle of the same material surrounded the house. Within lay some water-melons, and a pile of millet partly thrashed was before the door, and several cooking utensils were scattered over the premises. The good woman of the house offered us a cup of tea, but it was too bad to drink. Most of the huts which we saw in this walk were surrounded with small wattled inclosures, in some of which were a few poor flowers, or a chicken, or a pig; all indicative of a peaceful people, who had few wants to supply.

Among the crowd, some of whom left their work in the field to run after us, were a few with agricultural implements of a very simple construction, as a bill-hook, a wooden hoe, or a rake. Burdens were carried across the shoulders as in China; and the bamboo hats of the laborers were broad-brimmed like those of the Chinese. A pipe and tobacco-pouch were appendages of the dress of the poorest. We returned along a well defined ridge of coral and sand, thrown up by the waves, to the boat, where we found another crowd assembled; and it was astonishing to see with what impunity the children scampered over the sharp reef with their bare feet. All were in good humor, and some, who knew a little Chinese, endeavored to open a conversation, by telling us how rough the path was; and in leaving, they all bade us farewell. Returning to the ship, we rowed round the bay towards the inlet, and went up to the landing-place, where were our visitors of the morning assembled with a crowd; after passing a few compliments, we left them, and went on board.

July 13th. Early in the morning, we landed at the causey near Pootsung, before many of the natives were abroad in the streets. In the creek which we ascended were many old boats, apparently the only residences of their inmates, but the absence of females inclined us to think they were coasting craft. Landing at a rude flight of steps, we proceeded into the village without interruption, and, passing through it, began to ascend the wooded hill we had seen from the ship. As usual, a crowd soon collected about us, some of whom could talk Chinese, and we began to ask all manner of questions. On arriving at the top of the ridge, a beautiful and extensive prospect offered itself to our view, whose charms at this moment were heightened by the contrast of light and shade caused by the sun just rising over the hills, while the fields refreshed us by the sweet smell from the vegetation. On the right hand, from this commanding situation, are seen the distant islands of Kirrama, rising from a wide expanse of ocean, while the clearness of the water enables the eye to trace the coral reef which

protects the anchorage immediately below; to the south is Napa, the vessels lying at anchor in the harbor, with their streamers flying; and in the intermediate space appear numerous hamlets scattered about, with the white and glistening tombs near Capstan Rock. Turning to the east, the houses of Shoody the capital city, built in their peculiar style, are observed, opening from among the lofty trees which surround and shade them, rising one above another in a gentle ascent, to the summit of a hill, which is crowned by the palace—the interesting ground, between Napa and Shoody, a distance of some miles, being ornamented by a continuation of houses. At our feet lay the humbler village of Pootsung, at this time overshadowed by the declivity of the hill. To the north, as far as the eye could reach, the country was diversified, in some places flat and cultivated, and at others rising into a range of high wooded hills, which were lost in the distance. But alas! the inhabitants of this fair isle know not the Hand who has thus adorned it, nor do they render thanks to the Giver of all their blessings. May the light of the Sun of Righteousness soon be shed abroad over these lands, so ignorant and so benighted!

While we were admiring the scenery, the natives were gazing at us. One lad among them carried a writing apparatus and two books, in one of which was the Chinese character alone, and in the other the same interlined with the Japanese hirakana, the latter apparently intended as explanatory of the former; he said he was a scholar, but he could speak only a few words of Chinese. Among them were many well dressed men, a few of whom were very eloquent in their efforts to induce us to return, but whose speeches were utterly lost on us for want of a reporter. However, a more powerful argument, the heat of the sun, compelled us to yield to their wishes a retreat, which they, no doubt, considered to be wholly owing to their cogent reasoning. The soil here was composed of a stiff marly clay, which the dew rendered exceedingly slippery, and much caution was necessary in walking. Passing along, we came to some tombs, excavated in the side of the hill, apparently works of great labor, for the face of the rock was full thirty feet high, and the masonry extended over the greater part; the tombs were closed, and bore no inscriptions. The rocks overgrown with ivy and creepers, the venerable trees standing around, and the retired stillness of the spot, combined with its mournful use, rendered this a solemn place. Continuing our descent into the village, we were struck with the regularity of the streets, bounded on both sides by walls of coral, forming enclosures for the dwellings. Some, apparently not able to afford a stone wall, had planted bamboo hedges, which were kept trimmed exactly the size of the other; and the alternation of the dark coral and green bamboo, particularly in the vista, was very pretty.

Many females, some of them venerable gray-haired dames, were collected at the entrances of the dwelling-yards and on the tops of the walls, in order to catch a passing glimpse of us; and there were a number following in the crowd. Most of the dwellings were substantial structures of coral, with now and then one of brick, of one story,

and with tiled roofs; some were bamboo huts; and all stood back from the street within the inclosures. But in the extent of the dwellings, the furniture of the houses, and the means which conduce to the pleasure and security of the inmates, the habitations in Lewchew are far behind the Chinese; yet the regularity of the streets, with trees overhanging the walls, gave this village an aspect of comfort which vanished on closer inspection. In many of the yards we saw garden vegetables cultivated; and oranges, pumelos, bananas, and pomegranates, were observed. Two things surprised us, the more so from our having just come from China; one was, that we saw no persons selling provisions, or hawking articles about the streets with loud cries, or stationed at the corners with a display of goods; and another, there were no dogs barking and yelping in our ears. Good humor pervaded all classes; even the village officers talked with vivacity, and unbent their dignity. Some of them, as well as several of the common people, were dignified old men, whose silvery hair and beards, together with their loose flowing garments, gave us a favorable idea of the better classes. On approaching the boat, an underling made himself conspicuous in clearing the way, by applying his bamboo rod of office to the half-clad natives, who appeared to receive his castigations very submissively; and having opened a passage for us, we left the beach, the crowd gazing after us as long as we could see them.

At 11 o'clock, Anyah and his associates came on board, bringing only a small part of the supplies requested. As soon as the party was seated, he opened the conversation by saying, "that two days before we arrived, a foreign vessel had been observed standing in towards Napa keäng, which afterwards sailed away to the northwest;" and wished to know if that ship was ours. We told him that she was not, but was probably one we were expecting; for, from their description of her, she was undoubtedly H. B. M. Sloop of war Raleigh, which we were to meet in Lewchew. This reply was only the signal for further questioning, and one wrote down, "for what purpose do you expect her?" They were told, that she was an English man-of-war, which carried a friend who was to accompany us to Japan. As was anticipated, this answer was a source of considerable uneasiness to the chiefs, and a long and anxious consultation was the consequence. It was our previous intention not to tell the Lewchewans of the coming of the Raleigh, or of our destination, until she should arrive, in order that no intelligence of our course should reach Japan. They wished to know her size, number of guns, how long she was to stop in port, &c., upon which points we satisfied them. But the fact that Napa keäng should be made the rendezvous of two ships of two foreign nations, and one of them a man-of-war, was inexplicable, and tended to throw discredit upon our previous assertions that we were Americans.

To change the topic, Dr. Parker now produced the treatise of Dr. Pearson on vaccination, and proposed to inoculate some of those on board. Anyah read the book, explaining the object as he went along, and at last, one of the chiefs, named Tákalah, consented to receive

the virus. He sat down and three incisions were made in his arm, which he bore very well; but when it was attempted to introduce some of the virus just taken out of a fresh subject, his courage gave way, and he refused. Some encouraged him to go on, but Anyah, who had much influence over him, threw out suspicions of the baneful effects which might result from so unusual a proceeding; and Tákalah, with several others, requested to be allowed to take the book on shore, that they might more fully understand the subject. Anyah, who was of a suspicious spirit, and who moreover wished to monopolize all the dealings with us, endeavored to cut the matter short by saying, that "further efforts were needless, as every one in Lewchew had the small-pox before he was three years old." This assertion there were grounds for disbelieving; but Anyah several times did not scruple as to what he said, if he could restrain our intercourse with the people.

We asked him if he could procure us some horses for riding, stating that captain Beechey, whom he well remembered, had been thus accommodated. He replied, "The magistrates have issued orders that none of you gentlemen be allowed to go on shore; captain Beechey did not understand the orders, which was wrong; you all understand propriety, and consequently do not wish to go ashore." He was told that it was contrary to the rules of propriety not to return a visit; but he reiterated that it was against the laws of the land, and we ought not to go ashore. We replied, that we wished to walk about for health's sake, and to see the people and country, and that no harm could possibly arise from giving this permission. Changing the subject, he wished to know why we were going to Japan? and why we waited for our friend to go with us? On these points we were pretty well assured that the chiefs were not ignorant, for as soon as the party came on board, four or five persons went forward and entered into close conference with the Japanese, and now and then some of them walked aft, and spoke with those at the table. Our visitors were therefore simply told, that we were returning to their homes some shipwrecked sailors. Another list of the provisions we wished was given them; and they soon after took their leave, manifesting much less friendliness than the day before. Sweet wine recalled their good humor in a measure; but the knowledge that two foreign ships were making Napa kéang a place of meeting, when neither had any business to stop there, was a source of much solicitude.

In the afternoon, one of the Japanese junks left the harbor, laden with upwards of 200 peculs of sugar, bound for Satzuma, a port in Japan, lying about 460 miles N.N.E. from Lewchew. In coming out, she struck on a reef, but was soon got off without apparent damage, and as she passed the ship, we went in the gig to examine her. The hull was made of pine, and in its general form resembled a Chinese fast-boat; the bow was sharp, without bowsprit; but instead there was a high beak, like that of an ancient galley, with a fender, in case she should run stem on. The solitary mast was about 40 feet high, and supported by a huge forestay, under which hung a yard, in form like two cones united at their bases; this was raised by halliards

passing over the top of the mast aft to the quarters, where they went over a sort of windlass, and then round a capstan, below deck. The sail was made of very coarse heavy cotton, and the bolts were loosely laced together with cords, each being four or five inches apart, giving the sail a singular appearance; at the bottom, several ropes secured it in its proper place. There was no sternpost, and the open work permitted us to look directly into the cabin, where at this time the crew were hoisting sails with loud cries. The rudder was about fifteen feet long and eight broad, with a tiller like a spanker boom, reaching forward nearly to the mast. The longboat was lashed athwart the vessel near the bow, the ends projecting over each side about five feet, placed, one would suppose, in a very hazardous manner. Three or four grapplings lay on the bows attached to large hawsers; and a double-headed one was placed athwart the vessel near the mast, with the flukes outside, for the purpose of strengthening the sides. The stern was high out of water as in the junks of China, and upon it was her name, *Hozammah*, painted in large Chinese characters; upon the bow was a bird rudely carved, and the character *pin*, 'a shore,' all neatly ornamented with copper, which here, as in other parts of the vessel was laid on profusely. The capstan stood in the cabin, which, like every other part of her, was kept very clean; her sides fell in above the water mark, and she was rudely, though strongly built. The crew numbered about fifteen, one or two of whom wore the singular leggins seen in Japanese pictures, but most of them were scantily clad.

Towards evening we went ashore to view some excavations in the hills near Barupool; and in one, which we reached with difficulty, were a few human bones lying scattered about on the bottom. From this appearance, we thought these caves were not now, if they had ever been, used as sepulchres, for out of some near the top of the hill the natives came to see us. As usual, our landing was a signal for a crowd, and although we were at least a mile from Pootsung, the people came running along the beach. When we stepped into the boat, the aspect of the multitude was singular, as the eye, glancing over their heads, everywhere met the shining brass pins which secure the hair. Leaving them on the beach, we rowed along the reef for more than a mile, (the coral here, as everywhere in the bay, showing its beautiful forms through the transparent water,) until darkness compelled a return.

July 14th. This morning, again landed at the pier near the city, intending to walk as far as the inhabitants would permit. As soon as we stepped ashore, some officers requested us to be seated on the wet stones, which they were told was not according to propriety. Pressing onwards, we took the road to Napa, along the causey, but our officious friends put themselves before us in the narrow way, determined to prevent our progress by laying hold of our arms and dress, and requesting us to go into a temple near by. This we did, not wishing to press the matter, and walked about its precincts for some time, looking at the various buildings and garden plats within the

enclosure, which we afterwards ascertained were collectively called the hall of the Chinese ambassadors, spoken of by père Gaubil, and noticed in the July number of the Repository as the teënsze kwan. The whole were in rather a dilapidated condition, most of them unoccupied, and surrounded by a wall of coral. This structure was a work of some magnitude for Lewchew, being defended by a wall with battlements on the seaward side, in some places built up twenty-five feet from the marsh. If an inference might be drawn from its present plight, I should say that ambassadors had not lodged there very recently.

Resuming our seats in the boat, we pulled up towards Napa, which some of the officers seeing, immediately paddled after us. Passing several junks lying secured to the causey, we arrived at a kind of bay, around which the city is built, and continued on until the inlet terminated in a little brook, and the boat stuck fast in the mud. At this hour it was ebb tide, and people were seen wading about like leech catchers in the marshy banks: and behind them hills arose on which were tombs interspersed with cultivation. On the north side, buildings were seen along the road leading from Napa to Shoody, giving one a favorable idea of the quietude of the country; on the opposite side, there were few dwellings, and the land was hilly, and but partially tilled. When we came back, the sides of the bay were lined with natives, no doubt the greater part of the population, among whom some tall personages of the better sort beckoned us with their open fans to go out of the bay; but we bowed to them and lay on our oars, viewing the objects before us. Several large trees were seen high above the houses, and many of the buildings near the banks were old and in ruins. A few coolies were lading a junk with straw covered boxes, but everybody besides was looking at the foreigners. When we reached the pier, we stopped for the officers to overtake us, and then told them the object of our rowing up the inlet was to get a sight of their city.

Passing out into the bay, we relanded at the foot of Capstan Rock, and went up the hill into the temple where our predecessors had been entertained. The road thither was a wide lawn, paved with coral, and overgrown with grass; it led into the yard before the temple, through a gateway; at the right hand of the yard, a path led through a flower garden into the centre of a group of houses, and on the left, turned up the hill. The buildings on the top of the rock were surrounded with a wall, and appeared entirely deserted and falling to ruins, the inclosure being overgrown with grass. The temple itself was inhabited by a few disciples of Budha who kept it in good repair; and being surrounded with large trees, among which was a very singular banian with contorted branches: it affords a cool retreat.

Leaving the temple, I strolled over the cemetery, endeavoring to find the grave of a midshipman who was buried hereabouts by the crew of the *Alceste*; but none of the officers would tell me where it was, and I searched in vain. The sepulchres are very similar to the Chinese, but without any inscription; and although some were old,

the chunam was not overgrown with moss : perhaps care is taken to keep them clean, as is the custom in China. Many appeared to be the resting places of families, judging from their size and compartments ; and all were so carefully constructed, that we said the Lewchewans bestowed more pains and expense upon these retreats from all pain, than would suffice to accommodate many of the living. As if for contrast, several miserable huts, containing inhabitants more squalid and wretched than I had before seen, were scattered among the graves. Ascending a hill near by, I enjoyed another prospect of the grounds between Napa and Pootsung ; though annoyed by the yelping of the only dog we saw during our visit.

On returning to the temple, two ancient gigantic idols of red sandstone, so much weather-worn that the sculpture was barely discernible, were seen occupying two niches ; and several other blocks of the same rock lay scattered in the vicinity. We remained in the temple some time, examining its structure, inspecting some Budhistic books of prayers in Chinese, and fruitlessly endeavoring to purchase a few, sipping tea from a japanned tea-pot of Chinese manufacture, and looking at the various idols, one of which was made of porcelain, enshrined in their gloomy recesses. The floors were thickly matted, and the rooms opened into each other by sliding panels, a mode in general use, even with the external doors. Apart from the crowd was a group of females, apparently afraid to mingle with the men,—a fear well founded, from the rude usage we in several instances saw them receive. As we took our leave, we could detect a smile of gratulation on the countenances of the officers ; and I am afraid that the exhibition of restless curiosity manifested by us, a disposition natural in a strange country, did not raise our characters in the estimation of the quiet Lewchewans.

After breakfast, Dr. Parker again returned to the village in order to recover the treatise on vaccination. He was kindly received and conducted into the hall of the Chinese ambassadors, where was an old man wearing a huge pair of spectacles, who had copied the entire treatise, and wished to know something more about the manipulation. This was fully shown him and those around, by performing the operation upon his own arm ; he was then supplied with more of the virus, and with several lancets, which, in connection with the book, may enable the old doctor to become a great benefactor to his countrymen. The interest that was manifested, and the ample explanations contained in the tract, led us to hope that vaccination would become general in the island.

Soon after the gig returned, Anyah and his companions arrived, bringing with them three fine hogs, a couple of goats which were odd-looking animals, and two or three tubs of water. The old doctor and a few persons seeking medical advice came today, to whom such medicines were administered as were deemed safe in their inexperienced hands ; though, before receiving them, they exhibited laudable caution and desire fully to understand the contents of the papers. At last, with the aid of Otokitchi, we removed all their doubts, and

the medicines were carefully packed away in their tobacco-pouches. Dr. Parker now showed a set of anatomical plates, and paintings of surgical operations, to his old friend, who examined them with much interest, asking a variety of intelligent questions concerning the modes of operating in surgery. This old man interested us much, and we regretted that he had not appeared sooner; but we could not ascertain whether he was the same person whom Beechey mentions as having visited his sick men. Before he left, he requested us to give him a map of England, but unfortunately there were none on board to present him.

A few more questions were asked concerning the Raleigh; but to-day, the chiefs appeared to prefer conversing with the Japanese, making several inquiries of them concerning our expedition, where they had been residing, &c.; yet they did not show a very deep acquaintance with the geography of China; for when I wrote the characters for Macao, none of them knew the place. A paper was now handed to Tákalah and Anyah, in which I had written a few particulars about our intentions in coming to Napa keäng, and desire to promote a friendly intercourse with the people; and assured them that they had not favored these intentions. They assented to the truth of the statement, but said nothing further.

Our guests were now invited into the cabin to partake of a few refreshments. Some Cologne water was poured into the hand of one, and while several of them were tasting and smelling, and inquiring its uses, it evaporated, to the great wonder of the holder, who could not imagine why his hand was so cold. Some was then poured on his head, and the odor and coolness quite delighted him, and he accepted the bottle. The engraving of Dr. Colledge, operating on the blind, was exhibited and explained to our Esculapius, who, after looking at it some minutes, begged it as a gift; and it was presented to him. While the chiefs were below, the common people were eagerly receiving specimens of printed calico, with whose gaudy colors they were much pleased.

When the party below came on deck, we requested to know the value of the provisions they had brought us, at the same time proffering a handfull of dollars. - Anyah said, "we have neither gold, nor silver, nor coper money in Lewchew, and we cannot receive these; we give you a few worthless articles, but we cannot buy or sell." At this instant, the Raleigh hove in sight, and the excitement among the Japanese and others amazed the poor Lewchewans, who ran to the sides of the ship to see what was coming. Anyah, not at all disconcerted, turned round, and asked if that was the English ship we expected, and whether she was going to Japan with us? To these and some other queries, he was informed as he had been previously; and we concluded by saying, that we should probably leave the harbor the next day, intelligence that much delighted him. During all this time, while his countrymen around were excited and some rather alarmed, this man was imperturbed, continuing the conversation as calmly as if nothing had happened; he certainly in many ways and

at various times showed a great superiority to the other chiefs, while he also frequently vexed us, either by thwarting our wishes or by preventing our inquiries.

We again attempted to remunerate them for their provisions, by offering a few handkerchiefs, suggesting that they were much better than the paper ones used in Lewchew, and remarking that they were presents and not to be considered as pay. Tákalah said, "We cannot take them, for it will be the same thing as buying and selling." Other things were offered, which were likewise rejected; Anyah saying, "It is against the laws of our country to trade with foreigners, I know you would repay us, but we cannot take the least article." He did, however, accept a pocket dictionary, and all took some of the specimens of calico. One reason which we assigned for this continued refusal was, that all our guests were chiefs, and anything received by one would be known to all, and become a source of trouble to the owner; and its strangeness would also prevent him from exhibiting or using it with any degree of safety. In one of their visits we gave them the flag of the United States, which they said they had never before seen.

Our observations, when we compared them with those of other visitors to Lewchew, led us to infer that the novelty of foreign ships has worn off; and that the present policy of the government is, to depute their reception to officers, appointed for the business, who are to supply them with refreshments, and induce them to depart as soon as possible, by prohibiting unlimited access to the people, and restraining their visits on shore. By this means, experience would be gained, the officers would acquire a knowledge of the best ways of dealing with their guests, and thus those excesses which unfortunately have characterized the intercourse of foreigners with too many of the isles of the Pacific would be prevented. In this respect the Lewchewans have cause to congratulate themselves on their situation; out of the common tracks of the Pacific, their proximity to the unsocial empires of China and Japan, united to their own system of restriction, has been the means of sparing them the visits of some whom they are ill prepared to resist. The same officers, with some exceptions, came off to the ship, each day, and they also waited on the Raleigh; while it was remarked, that, on shore, we hardly ever saw our visitors. In neither place, did we see any indications of official rank on their persons; and their baton of authority was usually a fan, or a small bamboo or rattan in the hands of an attendant. The internal government and institutions of the islands are modeled after those of China, if we may believe Chow Hwang; but at present, it is very evident that Japanese customs, and influence obtain the supremacy. The four Japanese from the western part of Kiusiu, wrecked on Luçonia, said Lewchew was regarded as a dependency of the prince of Satzuma, and that he monopolized all the trade.

The common people around Napa appeared to have a nearly equal share of comfort; and by their general devotion to agriculture, provide

a supply of necessaries, and escape those extremes of wealth and woe so strongly contrasted in China. Few or no beggars were seen; and when looking at a large crowd, the eye detected few diseased persons, and never rested on any distorted or crippled objects. Their stature seldom exceeded five feet, or five feet three inches; their limbs were small, and their whole frames indicated a people little used to hard work. They have not been tempted to exertion by the presentation of foreign luxuries; the country affords them food and clothing enough for their wants, with the addition of a few exchanges from Japan and China; and, while such is the case, where is the call for enterprise? Enlarge their knowledge, and their wants will be increased, and successively their activity, and influence, and importance. Along with their simplicity, and, as some would say, happy ignorance, they are debased by idolatry, and besotted by sin; and until this incubus is removed, whatever stimuli to enterprise are presented, they will never rise in the scale of civilization. Let the vivifying influences of our holy religion be felt, their comforts, their pleasures, their rank among their fellow-men, and their condition in this life, will be enhanced a thousand fold; and in the train of these will follow joy and peace beyond the grave.

Agriculture is conducted on the same principles as in China, and most of the labor is done by hand. The fields are very small, separated from each other by footpaths; and the seed is planted in rows. Indeed, the Lilliputian minuteness with which the country is subdivided is singular. Great Lewchew contains about 900 square miles, being 60 long by 15 broad, and comprises thirty-five departments, and upwards of three hundred and fifty smaller districts, which makes the average size of a district about two square miles and six-tenths. Two kinds of millet, sweet potatoes, and rice were the usual crops; besides which, the country affords all the common garden vegetables, melons, and many sorts of fruit. Sugar forms the chief export; and grass-cloth is the common stuff for garments, though cotton fabrics are abundant; tea and silk we were told did not grow in the island, but this information was probably incorrect. Seaweed is collected for manure, and piles of compost were observed in various places; irrigation is conducted in a ruder manner, and to a much less extent, than in China. The agricultural implements are few and simple, a hoe sharpened with iron, a bill-hook, and a rake, constitute the majority; and the same simplicity, as far as we saw, runs through their mechanical arts. Arms we saw none, neither swords, matchlocks, nor knives; and we concluded, that their masters, the Japanese, like the Philistines when ruling over the Hebrews, had taken away their arms, and forbade them the use of weapons. The use of metals in any manner is limited, and for hair-pins, pipes, tea-pots, kitchen utensils, &c., they are probably indebted to Japan and China.

The paucity of domestic animals seemed to us, a remarkable feature of Lewchew, although most of the kinds found in the neighboring countries are known. We met one small white dog, and a few hogs, bullocks, and goats, and knew from others that the island possesses

horses, asses, and cats; poultry was scarce, and the absence of all these associations with domestic life imparted an air of emptiness even to crowded streets. In natural history, we added nothing to the observations made by the gentlemen of the Blossom. The vegetable kingdom offered a limited variety of flowers and trees; and as for shells, coral, insects, or fish, we saw few specimens worth preservation, and none were brought to, us by the natives. The islands very likely afford a considerable diversity in all departments of natural productions, especially in insects and fish, but a residence in the country is required to investigate them

American half-dimes were eagerly received by the people, and one man exchanged a handful of copper cash, bearing the superscription Kwanyung; but money was not plentiful in Lewchew. Most of their dealings are probably carried on by barter; and, judging from the list of exports given by Chow Hwang, there is an extensive trade carried on between this and the surrounding countries. Little faith, however, is to be put in these old statements of the Chinese ambassador at the present day; most likely, when he wrote, the amount of the majority of the commodities was barely enough to entitle them to a place in the list. A few Lewchew junks visit China; one, driven from her course, arrived at Macao, several years since; and Mr. Gutzlaff said, that he went on board one of their vessels at Fuhchow foo, during his late visit there in the Raleigh. The pattern for building junks given them by Keënlung has been faithfully adhered to, and the superiority of these to the Japanese model is very obvious. The proximity of Lewchew to China and Japan, and the fact that both of these nations can meet in its harbors, points it out as possessing peculiar advantages for increasing our intercourse with those powers. Make Napa keäng a free port, and junks from the interjacent coasts of Mantchou and Luçon would flock to it, there to seek a market for their produce, and procure the fabrics of other lands. It is, I believe, the only foreign port where, at present, the vessels of China and Japan can meet. Here they could become mutually acquainted, without standing in mutual fear, and their antipathies and prejudices would gradually wear off by intimacy and trade. Foreigners, also, could make this an entrepôt for their commodities, exchanging them for the tea and silks of China, and the metals and wares of Japan; and thus develop the resources, and direct the energies, of two empires, too long shut out from the community of nations. Suspicion and prejudice, learned by dear-bought experience, are the great barriers which separate these two countries from their fellow-men; and, since it was the misconduct of foreigners which closed their ports, it in fairness belongs to the same source to disabuse them of their misanthropy. Free trade begets a free interchange of thought; and with the goods, the civilization and Christianity, of foreign nations will extend; and these lands, for so many years shut out from the genius of universal emancipation, the gospel, will become accessible, by means of this port, and bibles and tracts can from here be distributed to the remotest parts of China and Japan. Are these plans visionary? Is not Singapore a sufficient witness to

the contrary? And why not have another Singapore in this great Archipelago of the Eastern Pacific? We hope these islands will receive more attention from those who wish to do good to the benighted nations around them.

The Lewchew group is situated between the 26th and 27th degrees of north latitude, and between 126° 56' and 128° 20' east longitude; comprising an area of about 5000 square miles; and numbering perhaps twenty islands, of which Great Lewchew is much larger than any of the others. Napa keäng lies due east of Fuhchow foo in Fuh-keën about 400 miles, and is nearly that distance S.S.W. of Nágasaki in Japan. Mount Oonodake, rising 1088 feet, is the highest peak of the range of hills which runs through the island lengthwise; Mount Sumar, on which the capital is built, is 540 feet high. The bluffs along the beach range from 60 to 100 feet high. Igúsicú, or Sugar loaf Island, is nearly the elevation of Mount Oonodake. We have no data of any value from which to estimate the population of these islands, but, from those we do possess, we should set it down between 60,000 and 80,000. Their language is a dialect of the Japanese, easily understood by the latter people, yet containing more words derived from the Chinese than that tongue. Chinese is studied for a particular object, and apparently by only a small proportion of the higher classes; for in our walks we met many well dressed persons who knew nothing of it, while all spoke the Japanese. It may be the case that teachers come now from China, or perhaps the language is preserved by the people themselves.

There is much confusion among authors who have written on these islands with regard to the modes of spelling the names of places. For instance, the name of the group has been written Lewkew, Lewchew, Loochoo, Liqueo, Licou Kicou, Lequeyo, Liquijo, Rio Kio, Riuku, and Doo Choo, which last is the native pronunciation. We have also, for the name of the capital, Showle, Tsenli, Tchoole, Shoody (native) Cheudi, Shooni or Shení. Kin-tching or Kin ching, the "Golden city," is the appellation given to the palace within the walls of Showle, and not another name for the capital. Napa has been increased to Napa foo, which is the 'district of Napa'; Napa ching, or 'city of Napa'; and more frequently Napa keäng, the 'inlet of Napa,' on which it is situated. Among all these authorities it is difficult to decide which is preferable; perhaps, as a general rule, Chinese pronunciation should be the guide. Tákalah gave us Pö tsun, or 'village of Pö,' for Pootsung; and Hwanteën for Oonting in Port Melville; Abbey Point he called Yalasah. Concerning many of the persons mentioned by captains Hall and Beechey, he knew nothing; Ching Oonchoo, the officer who visited the Blossom, he said was dead; Shtafacoo was up in the country; Madera was dead; and whoever else was mentioned, was either gone away, or forgotten, or dead. Tákalah wrote his own name, and Anyah's, (who is more properly called Anking, the *yah* being the title of respect, like *yay*, in Chinese,) but the latter, requested him to give no more, thinking, perhaps, there was too much notoriety already for their good. The

pictures in Beechey's narrative annoyed the chiefs a good deal, they were too faithfully drawn, especially the man and woman.

July 15th. This morning, we weighed anchor, it being our intention to lay off and on just outside of Blossom Rock, until Mr. Gutzlaff should come on board; but when we had passed the channel, a strong tide to the southward carried us far out of our course. Mr. Gutzlaff came on board about 3 p. m. from the Raleigh, whose destination hence was for the Bonin islands; and we immediately bore away, around the south point of Lewchew, for the bay of Yédo. The account of our reception there will be given in a subsequent number.

ART. II. *First annual report of the Morrison Education Society, read, before the general meeting convened in Canton, September 27th, 1837.*

THE first annual Meeting of the Society was held at No. 2, American Hong, this day, Wednesday, the 27th of September, 1837. Present: Messrs. Dent, Jardine, Green, Reeves, King, Turner, Lt. Boileau, Rev. Dr. Parker, Rev. Mr. Bridgman, Hon. Mr. Drummond, Messrs. Williams, Moller, Gilman, Schwabe, Cox, Slade, and Morrison.

The Meeting was opened by the President of the Society, Mr. Dent, who said, he considered it unnecessary to enter into any details, as all the proceedings of the trustees connected with the management of the Society were embodied in the report about to be read by the Corresponding Secretary. The other trustees felt a warm interest in all that could tend to promote the objects of the Society; but the chief work had hitherto necessarily devolved on the Corresponding Secretary; and he felt happy in having this opportunity publicly to express, how willing, amidst his other multifarious duties, that gentleman ever was to bestow talent, and labor, whenever they could be made useful. This first year had been one of preparation, rather than of operation; but, looking to the great object they had in view, he trusted they would not be discouraged, that they would imitate that worthy man, whose name the Society bears, and as a tribute to whose memory it was established—who devoted his whole life to efforts to benefit others, and to thankless endeavors for improving the condition of the Chinese.

The president concluded his remarks by inviting the attention of the gentlemen of the meeting to the report, which was then read by Mr. Bridgman.

REPORT.

THE selection of scholars, the procuring of teachers with means requisite for giving instruction, and the employment of the same, form three distinct departments in the great business of education, each

requiring the constant care of those who are charged with its direction. Only partial success can be expected, if scholars are not well chosen, or if good teachers, with ample means and opportunity to employ them, are not provided. The combination of all these prerequisites, in the best possible manner, is a desideratum, which, even in the most favorable circumstances of the most enlightened parts of the world, remains to be attained. 'To ascertain what is the best method of education—especially as it regards the age at which children should begin to study, the time, the books, &c., to be employed,—is a problem yet to be solved. Often has it been necessary for men, when entering on the business of life, 'to unlearn the errors of early education.' There is, throughout all China, a great lack of education, as well as great defects in that which exists. Its friends, therefore, have a two-fold object—they must correct that which already is, and must supply what is wanting. Here, as in India, "it is just as necessary to know the extent of the ignorance that prevails where education is wholly or almost wholly neglected, as to know the extent of the acquirements made where some attention is paid to it."

In accordance with these views, and following the plan which was laid down in the proceedings of the Society at its formation, the trustees have now to report what they have done—not so much in efforts to obtain scholars, and teachers, and means for giving instruction, as in endeavoring to ascertain the magnitude of the work to be accomplished in effecting that improvement and extension of education, so much needed among those who speak the Chinese language.

At their first meeting, held January 18th 1837, two letters, which had been previously prepared, were read and approved, and soon after forwarded—one to literary gentlemen long connected with one of the oldest colleges in the United States of America, and the other to the Secretary of the British and Foreign School Society in England.

The object of the former was to obtain a teacher immediately. The trustees expressed their wish for a young man, one who will come directly to China, and who will enter heartily and unreservedly on the work of education. Provision for his passage out has been obtained gratuitously; and the assurance given him, that, on his arrival here, he shall be provided with a residence and everything necessary to make the same convenient for prosecuting the business of the Society. On his arrival, his attention will be immediately directed to the study of the Chinese language, which must, we suppose, form a principal object of his attention for four or five years, and will occupy a considerable portion of his time for almost another equal period. A few boys may perhaps at once be taken under his care.

The acquisition of teachers, properly qualified to give oral instruction in the native language, and to prepare elementary books in the same, since no such books have yet been written, is exceedingly desirable. In order to accomplish its design, the Society will need to train up a corps of native teachers. This task is as difficult as it is important, and we need the best foreign masters of the art to accomplish it. Without such auxiliaries, very little progress can be made,

either in extending or improving education among the Chinese. The trustees, therefore, felt bound to lose no time in obtaining a man for this specific purpose. Should their first application not prove successful, it should be renewed and pressed until a teacher be obtained.

It being deemed desirable to have at least one gentleman from England early associated in the department of teaching with one from the United States, the trustees expressed their desire, in the letter to the British and Foreign School Society, to know if its directors could second such a measure and nominate a teacher; and, in the event of their doing so, whether they could contribute to his support. Knowing, as we do, that the directors of that noble institution desire to avail of every good opportunity to further the cause of learning, and that they have acquired, in various ways, during a long series of years, a great mass of information respecting almost every branch of education, we felt no hesitation in laying before them our plans, and soliciting thereon a free expression of their opinion.

Answers to these letters may be expected early next year. Considering the great importance of having thorough masters of education to train native teachers, the trustees solicit, on this subject, an expression of the opinion of the members of the Society here convened.

Five lads are now under the auspices of the Society. Four of them are learning both Chinese and English; and one, a child six years old, is confined, for the current year, to the rudiments of his own tongue. But for the means afforded by the Society, this boy, and one of the others, would probably never have been provided with the means of education.

The first child whose name was entered on our list was a beggar. Forsaken by his parents and elder brothers, the poor boy was left to wander in the streets, unprovided with food, clothing, or shelter. In this forlorn state, he had become so emaciated and weak, that recourse to medical aid was necessary for his recovery. Even now he suffers from what he endured while a beggar. In this part of China, there are many such children, who must, unless relieved by charity, grow up in ignorance, or, what has often happened, pine and die before reaching the age of manhood.

Two of these lads are at Singapore, and three in Canton; and it is the wish of the trustees that they be continued in a course of education, until they are well prepared for the active duties of life. We wish to see them not only trained up to useful and industrious habits, but taught also to be diligent and to earn their own livelihood. If possible, we would have them become teachers, and thereby support themselves and benefit others.

To the little group of children collected by Mrs. Gutzlaff, in Macao, some aid has been afforded from the funds of the Society, the amount of which will be exhibited in a statement from the treasurer. According to the last account, which was received only a few days ago, the school contains twenty children. They are taught in the same manner, and nearly the same lessons, as children usually are in primary English schools, with the addition of daily lessons in reading and

writing Chinese, given by a native teacher. In writing English they are instructed by a Portuguese master.

This school was commenced on the 30th of September, 1835, with an attendance of twelve little girls and two boys, under the auspices of the Ladies' Association for the promotion of female education in India and the East. The number of pupils has fluctuated from fifteen to twenty-five or more, the average being about twenty. They have generally been furnished with clothing, stationary, board, and lodging, gratuitously. The mode in which this school is conducted, particularly as it regards the selection of scholars, does not meet entirely the wishes of the trustees; it should be stated, however, that Mrs. Gutzlaff has had to encounter great difficulties; but, resolved, as she is, to persevere, we trust further experience will induce such modifications and improvements of the system, as to justify that support which it is one of the objects of this Society to extend to similar establishments.

In the present incipient state of our Society, it seems especially desirable to ascertain, as early and as distinctly as possible, the actual condition of education among the Chinese, both within and without the empire, in order that we may form just conceptions of what needs to be done. The higher branches of education—those on which promotion in the civil service chiefly depends, are regulated by a fixed code of laws, a digest of which we should like to see given to the public. By these rules the rank of scholarship is determined at regular examinations, one of which is now in progress in the metropolis of each province of the empire, where not less than 100,000 students are the competitors. Our present concern, however, is with *primary* education—a subject of vast importance, involving several distinct points of inquiry.

Those who have turned their attention to this subject, and endeavored to investigate it, need not be told how difficult it is to gain minute and accurate information in China. The whole field is beyond the reach of our personal inspection; and our sources of information are such, generally, as cannot be relied on, except with considerable limitations. Uniform as the Chinese are, what is true in one part of the empire may be wholly inapplicable to another part. For the present, therefore, we must be contented with indefinite statements on many points, and with mere conjectures on others,—leaving it for future research to corroborate or modify them according as facts may be developed.

The principal topics to which our inquiries have been directed, we have arranged under eighteen distinct heads, which we will here enumerate, adding under each the substance of the information already collected. In order to form just ideas of the work to be accomplished, and to have the whole field at once in view, our first inquiry was directed to the —

1. *Population of the empire.*

According to their own statistics, the population of the Chinese empire, in 1812, amounted to 362,447,183; of whom 360,279,897 belonged to the eighteen provinces. Allowing an equal population to

each province, there will be 20,015,550 in that of Canton. But according to the census of 1812, this province contained 19,174,030; and is, consequently, as the Chinese themselves regard it, in respect to population, one of the middling provinces. It is divided into fifteen departments, which are subdivided into eighty-eight districts. Kwangchow foo, or the department of Canton, contains fourteen of these districts; to six of which, and those the nearest to us, our inquiries have been chiefly confined: these are Nanhæ, Pwanyu, Tungkwan, Shuntih, Heängshan, and Sinhwuy. In extent, these districts are about equal to the counties in Old and New England. The first and second include the city of Canton, and large tracts of country beyond, where the people dwell in communities which they call *heäng*; these, in their territorial extent, are like the parishes of European nations, and may be styled townships. Throughout the whole empire, so far as we have been able to ascertain, the Chinese have their houses built contiguous to each other in cities, towns, and villages; the first are always, and the latter often, surrounded by walls. Thus, as they themselves say, the empire has its capital; each province its metropolis; and each department and district its city or chief town. All the inhabitants beyond those of cities or chief towns are collected into *heäng*; of which there are 180 in the district of Nanhæ, the one in which we live. The number of inhabitants in each township, according to the accounts given us, varies from 200 to 100,000; ordinarily, however, it ranges between three hundred and three or four thousands. In all these districts, the numbers composing the respective families and clans are also different in different places. "How is it possible to state the exact numbers!"

2. *Different classes of people.*

In ancient times the inhabitants were divided into four classes, namely, scholars, husbandmen, mechanics, and merchants. These divisions still exist to a certain extent, though minor subdivisions are in vogue. Besides those men who are in office, there are two respectable and influential classes, styled elders and gentry. The first includes all the old men, who are "past service," being 60 years of age or upwards. The gentry are the managers of all local public business, which is not in the hands of officers of the government. Next to these two honorable classes, are the common people, who are classed according to their respective occupations, as agriculturists, gardeners, fishermen, several kinds of mechanics and tradesmen, &c.; and lastly, strangers, some uncivilized tribes, and a few out-casts. All of the latter, and some of the classes of the common people, are wholly without the means of education.

3. *Proportion of males and females.*

On this point the facts hitherto collected are so few, that it would be premature and unsafe to draw from them any general statements. It is said, that, in this part of the empire, ninety-five of the men in a hundred are married; and it is well known, that a plurality of wives is not uncommon; and yet, so far as our inquiries have extended, the

number of males exceeds that of the females. In pursuing these inquiries in future, it ought to be borne in mind, that no females emigrate from China. This fact will, in some measure, account for the excess of females in those places from which many of the men emigrate. In order to obtain accurate statistics for elucidating this subject, the following simple mode of inquiry has been suggested to some of our native friends: "take the name of an individual (where the case is well known), and mark his residence, age, number of wives, sons, and daughters, with such additional facts as seem worthy of notice."

4. *Different kinds of schools.*

Schools among the Chinese have assumed a great variety of forms. We suspect that the ancient divisions, given in the classics, exist only in books; and that modern institutions, both high and low, public and private, have been greatly modified according to the circumstances and wants of individuals and communities. The influence of government on primary schools, as well as on those of a higher rank, has been felt; but the extent and effects of such influence remain to be ascertained.

5. *The number of males able to read.*

In Nanhæ the people are remarkable for their literary spirit; and, excepting agriculturists, gardeners, fishermen, with those who are engaged in providing fuel, and the classes before specially excluded, nearly all the men are able to read; and two or three tenths devote their lives entirely to literary pursuits. In other districts not more than four or five tenths can read; and only one or two in a hundred are devoted to literary pursuits for life.

6. *The number of females able to read.*

There have always been some females able to read; but at present the number is very small, probably not more than one in a hundred; in some places the number may be greater and in others less. Among the most opulent people in Canton, a few schools have been opened, under the care of tutoresses. The number of pupils in these schools has usually varied from ten to forty. "This is delightful and ought to be recorded."

7. *Age at which scholars enter school.*

In ancient times, boys commenced their primary studies at the age of eight years; and at fifteen entered on the study of the higher classics. Girls, after they reached the age of ten, were not allowed to leave their apartments. Children now usually enter school at the age of seven or eight years. But there is no fixed age; and they may commence at any time of the year. There is no division into terms and quarters, succeeded by long vacations, with the exception of new-year, when there is a recess of two or three months. Auspicious days must always be selected for the children to make their first entrance at school.

8. *Primary Books.*

The books used for primary education are the Trimetrical and Thousand Character Classics, a book of odes for children, with parts

of the Four Books, and Five Classics. An appropriate set of lessons have been selected for girls. These books contain a large collection of moral maxims, and some remarkable sayings of the sages, with which are blended a variety of mystical dogmas, and a few historical facts. None of the branches of science, properly so called, enter into any part of these primary books. They are from beginning to end unfitted for the minds of children, being, for the most part, hard to understand, and wholly devoid of topics calculated to awaken interest in the minds of children or to enlarge their understanding.

9. *Method of teaching.*

The method of teaching has, no doubt, been modified by the character and style of the books used. When the pupil enters school he commences learning from the diction of the master, the latter reading, and the former following, endeavoring to imitate his teacher as perfectly as possible. As soon as he is able to read a few lines or sentences, the child is seated by himself and continues the repetition, until the lesson becomes so familiar that he is able to 'back' it, i. e. repeat it with his book behind his back. Book after book is 'backed' in this manner. In the mean time, lessons are begun in writing. The Chinese paper, used for this purpose, is so thin, that, perfect copies being placed beneath it, the pupil can trace the letters with his pencil, and so take off a facsimile of the copy. After having pursued this course for a year or two, and become familiar with the forms of a few hundreds, or perhaps thousands, of characters, the teacher commences a course of explanatory lessons, proceeding over the ground already trod, and explaining, word for word, and phrase after phrase, what has already been committed to memory.

10. *Number of years spent at school.*

In this particular there is a great diversity. Those who are destined to a literary course, entering at the ordinary period, continue their studies, with few interruptions, until they have gained the highest literary honors to which they can attain—if successful, passing regularly through the degrees of *sewtsae*, corresponding to that of bachelor of arts; *keujin*, master of arts; *tsinsze*, a still higher advance; and finally to the *hanlin*, corresponding to, or perhaps a degree higher than, our doctorates. The better course of common education occupies the student five, six, or seven years; others are continued at their books for three or four years; while some remain only a few months, or at most one or two years. The rich generally give their sons the advantage of a full course in the study of the classics, with the opportunity, if they wish it, to compete for literary honors. The middling classes, of the better sort, usually give their children every aid in their power. The poor, for the most part, are restricted by their poverty from giving their children any education, or from continuing them in school beyond two or three years.

11. *Hours of study.*

The hours of study also vary considerably, being regulated by the seasons of the year, and other accidental causes. The most common

hours observed are, from sunrise till ten, when an hour is allotted for breakfast; after this, the studies are resumed and continued until four or five o'clock, when the pupils disperse for dinner. Sometimes, in the hot months of summer, they do not reassemble; but more generally, and always in the winter, they have a lesson in the evening, commencing at early lamp-lighting, and continuing until nine o'clock. During all these hours there is very little change or variety in the studies,—the same book, and often one and the same lesson being continued from morning until evening. A little relief is occasionally obtained by reviewing former lessons, and by exercising the pencil in writing.

12. *School-rooms.*

At Peking there are several public buildings, and in the metropolis of each province there are colleges, with a hall for literary examinations, all belonging to government. But we are not aware that any houses or school-rooms are provided by government for primary education. In the country, each village, or subdivision of a village, has its own school-room. Some of the apartments of temples, especially those dedicated to ancestors, are frequently employed for school-rooms. One of this description, which stands near the residence of the Siamese tribute-bearers, is about twenty-two feet by eighteen; and during the year has contained thirty-two boys, between the ages of seven and seventeen. The scholars are not arranged into classes, but are seated promiscuously, the old and the young together. Each has his own table, which is about three feet long and one and a half broad, furnished with a drawer and writing apparatus. The boys are seated on bamboo stools, most of them with their faces towards the master, who occupies an elevated seat at one of the corners of the room. Close by him, on his right, is a tablet with an altar, consecrated to Confucius and the god of letters. On the whole, the room is a very poor one, being narrow, close, dark, and low. The boys are tolerably well clad, and appear neat and cleanly. They all study aloud, raising their voices to a high key; and each recites separately in his own place, or comes forward to the master's table. Their master is a respectable looking man, aged thirty-four years.

13. *Number and character of pupils in the schools.*

In common schools the number varies from ten to forty. In private establishments the number is smaller, often not being more than two, three, or four, under the charge of a single master. In the higher schools, or colleges, the number sometimes rises to hundreds. As to the character of the scholars it is not easy to form any correct opinion, without much more extended observation than we have yet enjoyed. On two points, however, we feel confident that we are safe in drawing conclusions; 1st, that the natural capacities of Chinese children are every way equal to those of Europeans; and 2d, that the mental discipline, arising partly from the nature of the books used, and partly from the method adopted in teaching, is very inferior to that enjoyed by European children.

14. *Character of teachers.*

The business of teaching is rendered honorable, more from its own nature, than from the character of the teachers, or the things taught. Not a few seem to have recourse to this occupation because they can find no other. A great majority of teachers, in common schools, are unsuccessful candidates for literary honors. Having failed at many successive examinations, and having arrived at an age that unfits them to enter on a mercantile life or any course of manual labor, they turn pedagogues, in which occupation little is expected beyond a good stock of patience and some tact at governing. Qualifications requisite for giving instruction seem to be of little consideration in the selection of teachers. Besides prompting the children in the first reading of their lessons, and afterwards hearing them repeat the same, the master has only to act the part of a sentinel, and keep good watch over his charge.

15. *Wages of teachers.*

The remuneration of teachers depends very much on the number and the wealth of their pupils. In a school of twenty boys, the average of a dollar per month from each is regarded as a high rate; ordinarily they do not obtain more than one half, or two thirds, of that sum. In some village-schools, pupils obtain tuition for two or three dollars per annum; while, in private schools, they sometimes pay one, two, three, or more, hundreds. It is customary, also, for the pupils, on entering school, and at other stated periods in the year, to make their master small presents, which consist usually of eatables.

16. *Examinations.*

The examinations of primary schools seem to be both informal and unfrequent. The only examinations which obtain are made by the masters themselves, and for the sole purpose of ascertaining how much the pupil has retained in his memory. We are not aware that parents or friends ever visit the schools in which their children are being educated. All trial of the boy's abilities is reserved for the examinations which take place under the direction of the government.

17. *Rewards.*

Rewards are frequently given, but seem not to be of much value or to have much influence. They usually consist of some trifling articles of writing apparatus, such as pencils, paper, ink, inkstones, &c. Sometimes money is given.

18. *Punishments.*

Punishments are often and severely inflicted. Neglect in arriving punctually at school, or in acquiring his lesson in a given time, together with any kind of misbehavior, renders the pupil liable to punishment, by reproof, chastisement, or expulsion. Whether the frequency and severity of the punishments depend most on the character and disposition of the master or pupil we cannot tell. Great severity is highly esteemed by parents, who seem to fear only that their boys will not receive their full dues. Among the instruments of

punishment, the rattan, or a small bamboo, is conspicuous, and is usually hung *in terrorem* close by the master's chair. Its application is sometimes made before the whole school; but oftener in private, either in another apartment, or in the school-room after the other scholars have been dismissed. When both the rod and reproof fail, expulsion is the last resort.

We pass now to give a few particulars respecting the state of education among Chinese without the limits of the Empire. At the first meeting of the trustees it was agreed to send a circular, containing a series of inquiries, addressed to gentlemen resident in Manila, Batavia, Pinang, Malacca, Singapore, and Bankok. The series of inquiries we here introduce, hoping that further information may be elicited.

1. What is the proportion of males and females, among the Chinese population, in any given place or places, as in a street, village, district, town, department, province, &c.?

2. How many of each are able to read?

3. How many are able to write?

4. At what age do children commence learning to read and write?

5. In what manner are they taught?

6. What are the annual expenses of each scholar?

7. How many years are children kept at school?

8. What wages, or compensation, do teachers receive per month, or year?

9. How, and when, are they paid?

10. What are their duties as teachers?

11. What are the modes, and degree, of punishments in the schools?

12. Are any rewards given to the pupils?

13. If so, what are they? What their effects?

14. What are the daily hours of study?

15. What the manner of recitation?

16. How are scholars examined at the close of a term, or year?

17. How are the school-rooms fitted up?

18. How many scholars in a room?

19. How are they arranged?

20. What are the Books used?

21. Are there any defects in the system of education?

22. Can any improvements be introduced? If so, what, and how?

From Batavia we have been favored with a document in Chinese, and a short extract from the governmental returns of population, exhibiting the number of Chinese in the residency of Batavia.

The fact stated above, that no females emigrate from China, should be here kept in mind. But how far the intermarriages with the natives of the Archipelago have affected the Chinese character, we have not the means of determining. The numbers of Chinese in the residency of Batavia for the last four years, stand thus:

Years.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1833	11,370	9,424	5,906	5,160	31,860
1834	12,333	9,751	5,901	5,604	33,589
1835	11,843	9,324	6,119	5,226	32,512
1836	12,363	9,818	6,545	5,823	34,549

Whether the merchants who go annually to Batavia, are included in this statement, we do not know; probably they are not.

The information contained in the Chinese document seems to have been collected with much care. We give a free translation of the whole paper.

"Having received your commands to make inquiries respecting the Chinese in Batavia, we immediately and carefully sought for the particulars, and have ascertained that the number of men is 12,000; of women 9,000; of boys 6,000; and of girls 5,000; giving a total of 32,000. But this estimate is confined to the city of Batavia, and does not include those who dwell on the hills in the country, the number of whom we cannot ascertain. Though the Chinese in Batavia are numerous, very few are able to read, probably not one in ten. And if you wish to obtain teachers, we suppose you would be able to find only a few tens among the whole population.

"This neglect of learning among the Chinese may be attributed, in part, to their love of idleness and aversion to study, which renders them foolish and blind; and, in part, to their poverty, which requires the children, at an early age, to assist their parents in gaining a livelihood, so that they find no time for study. The state of things being thus, it is evident that girls can never be taught to read.

"To your other inquiries, respecting the education of the Chinese in Batavia, we have prepared a few answers, which are subjoined; and we beg you to bestow thereon a glance.

"What is the annual expense of educating Chinese boys in Batavia?—It is various. Wealthy families, who wish their sons well educated under good masters, pay from 30 to 100 dollars per annum; but the poorest families pay no more than 22 dollars. They are paid sometimes half yearly, and sometimes oftener; there is no uniform rule.

"What is the daily routine of study? At five o'clock the pupils enter the school-room to 'attack their books,' and recite their lessons to the teacher; this done they take a new lesson, and continue their studies till half past seven o'clock, when they retire to breakfast. At eight, they return to their books; at ten, they again recite and receive new lessons. Writing now engages their attention until noon, when they go for their dinners. They enter the school-room again at one o'clock, and either resume writing or attend to an explanatory lesson from the teacher. At half past two, they all resume their books, and continue at them till half past four, when they recite and receive another lesson for the evening. At half past five the business of the day closes.

"What compensation do the masters receive? Sometimes a thousand dollars; or perhaps six, eight, or nine hundred. The very lowest wages are four hundred annually. (?)

"Are any rewards given to the scholars, or punishments inflicted? No rewards of money are ever given; but sometimes, when the children are very intelligent and skillful in composition, the teachers, pleased with their attainments, reward them with presents of paper and pencils. When the pupils err, they are beaten on their hands with the bamboo, to make them reform.

"Do the scholars undergo any examinations? They are sometimes examined by their teachers in writing poetry; but there are no public literary examinations like those in China.

"What is the usual number of scholars in a single school, and how are they arranged? The number varies from ten to thirty; and sometimes they are seated in two rows, according to seniority; but usually they take their seats promiscuously.

"What are the ceremonies observed, and the books used, in the schools? When the scholar enters the school-room he must first bow to Confucius, then to his master; and afterwards go directly to his studies. The Four Books and the Five Classics, with the commentators, and a few other ancient writings, are used as school books in Batavia."

We turn next to Pinang, which is comparatively a new settlement. According to a census completed in June, 1836, the Chinese population was 8,993; the same census gave 2,295 to Province Wellesley. These numbers are supposed to be too low. Most of the people are from Fuhkeën. Considerable numbers of mechanics, however, are from Canton and its vicinity. Our correspondent, gives a dark picture of the state of education among the Chinese in Pinang. Many of the men, he says, who can read a few characters, are often unable to comprehend their meaning. No females can read, except a few girls, who have been taught in schools recently established. "The present female-school system—I mean that at Pinang,—does not admit of efficiency, at least, such is my most matured opinion." So says our correspondent. The details which he proceeds to give are, for the most part, in good keeping with those from Batavia. We add a few particulars. Children enter school between the ages of six and twelve years, and follow the course usual in their mother country. Some of the most wealthy send their sons to China to complete their education. The wages of teachers, are much lower than in Batavia, being 20 sicca rupees (about \$10) per annum.

Two documents have been sent to us from Malacca; one has failed to reach us; from the other, which was intended only to supply the deficiencies of the first, we gather the following particulars; which seem to refer exclusively to the primary schools recently established by foreigners.

There are of Chinese in Malacca, about four males to one female. The major part of the males are able to read and write. They generally enter school at the age of five or six years, and are taught on the interrogative system; and at an annual expense of eight dollars per annum. Children are continued in school seven or eight years. The teachers are usually paid according to the number of children: thus for twenty pupils \$8 are given, and a dollar for every addition of ten scholars; they are paid monthly. Books, apparel, money, &c., are given as rewards, and their effects are good. Public rebuke in the presence of the whole school, confinement, chastisement, and expulsion, are the punishments for bad conduct. At the end of each week the scholars are examined in what they have learned during

that period ; they are examined, in like manner, at the close of each term. From thirty to seventy are assembled in a single school, and are arranged in classes. Christian books, composed of short and easy sentences, together with the Chinese Classics, are used.

From Singapore, Bankok, and Manila, no information respecting the Chinese schools has yet been received. Full accounts, however, may be expected to reach us soon.

We have now presented to the Society all the information, worthy of notice, which we have been able to collect. A great many more particulars, however, must be collected before we can gain any very satisfactory results. It will be desirable, therefore, to continue and extend our inquiries, until each and every topic is thoroughly canvassed, and well understood.

We close this part of our report, with a short extract from a private letter, written by Dr. Morrison not many months before his death.

"In China no poor women can read, and but few of the rich. Classical studies are not for them ; and Chinese novels are often very bad ; inability to read, therefore, is no great loss. Yet to be able to read and write a domestic letter is of course useful, and even Chinese books would somewhat enlarge the mind ; but not many of the millions of celestial females are so far educated. However, some learn, and others are school-mistresses, who teach chiefly needle work and domestic duties. To these general remarks there are some exceptions. And ladies are occasionally to be found, who are learned in ancient lore, such as it is. There are ladies also, who make verses. The late governor Yuen of Canton [now member of the cabinet at Peking] had a learned daughter, who died recently ; after her death, his excellency published a hundred of her verses."

The library has received considerable additions during the year. A convenient room has been obtained for it ; and measures adopted to open it to the public, which will be carried into effect as soon as the catalogue can be printed. The rules for the regulation of the library, with the conditions on which it is opened to the public, will accompany the catalogue.

All the books of the library, now amounting to 2310 volumes have been presented to the Society unsolicited. Mr. Colledge set the example, and was followed by Mr. Reeves, both of the gentlemen bringing in large collections of the books, formerly belonging to the members of the Hon. East India Company's Factory. The other donors are Messrs. Dent, Fox, Blenkin, Morrison, Moller, Innes, Keating and Rev. Messrs. Medhurst, Stevens, and Bridgman.

What the books are that now compose this collection may be seen by inspection, either of the library, or catalogue. Since such generous contributions have been made to the library, we trust it will continue to receive additions, especially of those books which relate to this country, and such other standard works as may serve for reference.

With so great and good an object before them, as that contemplated in the constitution of this Society, the trustees feel confident in the hope, that both its members and its friends abroad will ever, as occasion may demand, afford all requisite assistance. Our expenditure, though small at present, will necessarily increase as our operations are extended. Care will be taken to state fully, from time to time, both what is accomplished and what is needed, and on the considerations thus presented the claims of this Society must rest.

After the Report had been read, the President explained to the meeting, that, in consequence of the absence of both the auditors appointed at the last meeting, the trustees had requested Messrs. Green and Cox to act provisionally in their place: it was then moved by Mr. Reeves, seconded by Mr. Moller, and unanimously resolved:

“That the provisional appointment of auditors, which has been made by the trustees, be confirmed by this meeting.”

Some discussion next ensued on one or two of the subjects alluded to in the report; and Lt. Boileau made some remarks on the mode of conducting schools in India, and obligingly promised, on his return to Bengal, to communicate to the secretary full details of the general arrangements of the schools, which he had not then with him.

It was then moved by the Rev. Dr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Reeves, and unanimously resolved:

“That the Report which has been now read, be approved and accepted.”

Some further conversation having arisen, on the subject of schools, and it having been asked, whether schools might not be established at Canton and Macao, under the care of native tutors, objection was made to such a measure, on the ground of the utter inefficiency of such native tutors as are at present procurable. In enforcing this objection,—

Dr. Parker, who was just recovering from illness, rose, and addressed the meeting in the following terms:

“I want strength, Mr. President, rather than inclination, to express a few of the sentiments which the occasion and report irresistibly awaken. There are several facts, sir, which require to be strongly impressed upon our minds. The Society is exposed to animadversion, because it cannot immediately display the fruits of its labors. But the peculiarity of its circumstances should be kept in view. No similar institution in the world is like it, in the obstacles to be encountered at its commencement. An immense work of preparation must precede its successful operation. You must half circumnavigate the globe to obtain the men who are to become your agents in instruction; and then, in the words of the report, ‘four or five years of close application to the language will be necessary,’ before they will be prepared for *efficient* action. This may seem disheartening. But it is a universal law, that cause must equal effect. The object of the Society is vast. The foundation must be deep and broad to sup-

port the superstructure you hope to erect; and much forethought, toil, and patience, are indispensable. By laying a broad basis, you will create confidence among, and secure coöperation from, the wise and benevolent abroad. They will perceive that it is not an ephemeral thing, but a concern that reaches forward far into the future, and is worthy of their patronage.

"The mind is overwhelmed in the contemplation of the results which this Society is capable of effecting. Take, if you please, the case of the little beggar mentioned in the report: contrast his present prospects with his former condition. Think of the little sufferer dwindling away for a few weeks or months, and perishing in the streets; then look forward and behold the man he is capable of becoming under the auspices of your Society. This is a single case. Multiply this unit by the millions of children, within and without the empire, whose education you contemplate,—and how great is the aggregate of good to be accomplished! In the moments of calm reflection, when the mind revolves the various objects of virtue and philanthropy, some may equal, but few will surpass, in *desirableness* or moral grandeur, the Morrison Education Society.

"Happy allusion has been made to *him* whose name the Society bears. We love to dwell upon his memory; and upon what he, an individual, under God, accomplished, by system, diligence, and patient perseverance. The allusion involuntarily carried my mind back to an early period in his history. I seemed to see him pursuing his studies in a 'godown'—with the large volumes of a commentary on the Bible screening his lamp from the wind—and thus poring over the language which he afterwards so successfully acquired, and the knowledge of which has rendered him a blessing to so vast a portion of his fellowmen. It is, sir, this spirit of perseverance—nothing daunted by difficulties, and the pure and exalted motives, which characterized that man, that this Society ought to imbibe. Without these, it is unworthy of its name. With them, under the divine blessing, it will surely succeed.

"How commercial and political changes may affect this and kindred institutions in China, none can foretell. Everything, however, at present, encourages us *onward*. Death, has it is true been among us; at this, our first anniversary, we are reminded, that one of the original members of the Society, one whose valued counsel and varied coöperation would ever have been cheerfully given, had his life been spared, will meet us no more. I allude to the Rev. Mr. Stevens.

"Notwithstanding the obstacles met with (to which a bare allusion is sufficient—for they are familiar to, and appreciated by, the Society), satisfactory progress has marked this first year of the Morrison Education Society's existence. The men on whom the labor has devolved—the trustees—hold no sinecure. They have otherwise full occupation for their time and talents; and yet resolutions formed by them have been executed, correspondence has been attended to, and statistics have been collected, as is fully shown by the report that has this morning been read.

“No particular sect or nation is here brought together for a subordinate end; but we behold a converging of accordant minds to the great object of educating, ‘according to the best systems of Christendom,’ the myriads of the present, and millions of future, generations of the youth of this empire.”

The members present then proceeded to elect by ballot the office-bearers for the ensuing year. The following gentlemen were elected: trustees; president, Lancelot Dent, esq.; vice-president J. C. Green, esq.; treasurer, William Jardine, esq.; corresponding secretary, Rev. E. C. Bridgman; recording secretary, J. Robt. Morrison, esq.; auditors, R. Turner esq., and C. W. King, esq.

After the ballot, the business of the anniversary being finished, the meeting was immediately dissolved.

ART. III. *Relations of England towards China; her consequent duty to extend a knowledge of China has been neglected; Dr. Morrison's Chinese Library; the Anglo-Chinese College; what remains to be done.*

OF all the foreign nations holding intercourse with China, England has long occupied the first place, whether we regard her in a commercial or in a political point of view. Holland and France each send forth to China three or four ships annually; to which Java adds a few more, under the Dutch flag. Hamburg and Denmark have each generally one ship in the seas of China. Prussia sends a vessel about once in two years. The direct trade between Portugal and Macao is scarcely greater than that of France; the trade between the Portuguese and Spanish colonies and Macao is conducted by less than twenty Portuguese vessels, mostly of light draft, with a trifling addition of still smaller Spanish vessels from Manila. The trade of the United States is carried on in about fifty vessels, averaging not above 500 or 600 tons each; and even of these many reach China direct from England. But the English trade, even in the time of the Company's exclusive commerce, employed every year no less than twenty large ships of 1300 or 1400 tons, from England, with more than an equal number of ships in the Indian trade, averaging 700 and 800 tons; besides occasional visitants from the Indian ports, and from Pinang and Singapore. Since the opening of the trade, although the number of very large ships has been much reduced, yet the whole number of vessels has increased in a much greater ratio. In the year ending June 30th 1837, no less than 150 English vessels visited China. Looking at the *value* of the English trade, as compared with that of any other country, the disproportion is still greater. For the

year ending June 30th 1837, the value of imports by British vessels amounted to 34½ millions of dollars, of exports to about 30 millions. The value of the other trade we are not at present able to state, except that conducted in American vessels during the same period, which gives of imports about \$3,500,000, and of exports \$7,800,000.

If we view the English relations with China in a political light, her only rival for superiority over all other nations is Russia. France, before the revolution, held, by her missionary-emissaries, those particularly of the school of Loyola, a position that might have been made highly advantageous. The revolution, however, having removed from these missionaries the royal countenance and support, that position was soon lost, and has never since been even in part regained. We have only then to compare the situation of England with that of Russia.

The latter country, shut out from all maritime intercourse with China, has access at one point alone, Kiachta. Her intercourse from this place with Peking is almost wholly of a commercial nature. Her school at Peking, in which are four priests and six scholars, is under strict surveillance; and a decennial change of persons prevents individuals, who at their first arrival are wholly ignorant of the language of the country, from forming any intimate connections among the people. The Russian and Chinese empires are, it is true, for a very long space conterminous; but high mountains divide them from each other along the greater part of the length; and in every direction, an elevated sandy desert separates Russia from the cultivated and populous provinces of China proper. Russia now stands in the same position in relation to China that she did a century ago.

England, on the other hand, is daily drawing nearer and nearer to the Chinese frontier. In the Straits of Malacca, the British possessions in the immediate neighborhood of China are extensively colonized by Chinese. In Burmah, a friendly state, daily yielding itself to British influence, we find no barrier but that of military posts between her fields and those of China. In the southeast of A'sám, a small portion of Burman territory alone separates us from the province of Yunnan; at Mainkhon, within eight days' journey of Sadiya (the eastern capital of A'sám), we already find Chinese settlers, and these will very soon spread themselves farther north, into A'sám itself. On the north-east of Sadiya, a few wild tribes (whose mutual contentions are from time to time compelling some of them to place themselves under British protection) alone separate us from the province of Szechuen, distant from 120 to 150 miles. Bútán on the northwest of A'sám, is in part possessed by the Chinese. Nipál, a friendly state, at whose court the English have a political resident, and whose monarch is in great measure awake to the value and importance of European science, has for many years been reckoned among the tributaries of China. And to the north-west of this country, a morning's ride out of the British territories brings one into immediate contact with the Chinese military posts on the Tibetan frontier. These are very modern and still progressive approaches to the frontier of China; they are approaches made at many distinct points; and are hence the

more calculated to arouse the suspicions of a haughty and repulsive, but feeble government. And surely it is imperative on the British government to put itself in a position, by means of trustworthy and responsible officers, acquainted with the people and their language, to smooth off all such jealousies, and at the same time to gain every possible advantage in regard to mutual intercourse. Surely it behoves her, in her Straits' colonies, to have officers acquainted with the language and habits, the customs and the prejudices, of a people, who promise ere long to exceed all other natives in numbers, as much as they now do in enterprize and industry. Nor, holding such a position as England now holds in the view of the Chinese, does it less behove her to appear, through her functionaries in this country, in her true and proper character (would that that character were never even in these days tarnished), as a great, an intelligent, a powerful, and at the same time a generous, and forbearing nation.

But while England stands thus preëminent among the nations, in her commercial and political relations towards China, how greatly has she allowed other nations to excel her in endeavors to attain a knowledge of the people, and of the language of the people, with whom she may so soon be brought into close, or it may be hostile, contact! Russia has her school at Peking, which has as yet, however, produced little that the world has been permitted to see. France has her Chinese library, and has long had a professor of the Chinese and Tartar languages. Prussia, that sends a single ship to China once in two years, has her Chinese library and professor. Yea, even Bavaria supports a Chinese professor, at the university of Munich. But the English government has neither of its own accord done anything for Chinese literature, nor has it afforded, even when earnestly applied to, the least countenance to the strenuous efforts made by private individuals, to give facilities for acquiring a knowledge of Chinese without the necessity of a distant voyage. The East India Company, which has until very lately stood in the place of the British government here, and which still does so in India, has done a little for Chinese literature. With the single and striking exception, however, of its munificent support of Dr. Morrison's lexicographic and other literary labors, it has acted at all times with anything but liberality towards efforts for the extension of a knowledge of China, and has shown itself wholly wanting in any due appreciation of the value of such knowledge to its own political interests. We do not risk these assertions in regard either to the British government, or to the East India Company, without having it in our power to bring forward abundant facts in proof of them. These, however, are mostly well known, and one only need here be more particularly alluded to. In 1824, Dr. Morrison conveyed to England a large and valuable Chinese library, collected by him when commencing his lexicographic labors; and this library it was his purpose to present to any literary institution that would establish a Chinese school or professorship. His efforts to effect such an object were, however, fruitless: the needful interest in Chinese literature did not exist; and the govern-

ment, when applied to, declined making any attempt to create it; and even a remission of duties on the books was refused!

We have now, however, the pleasure to record, that the attempt in which Dr. Morrison failed, and in which the British government declined its aid, is about to be again made by a few private individuals, friends to the memory of the deceased Chinese scholar and philanthropist. Before proceeding briefly to point out what steps may at once be taken by the British government, whether at home or in India, for extending a knowledge of China, we will here subjoin the prospectus that has been issued by the individuals who have interested themselves with regard to this library.

* * * * *

The late Rev. Dr. Morrison, in the year 1824, brought to England a collection of Chinese books, in every branch of the literature of that nation, which he had obtained by great perseverance, and at an expense of about £2,000.

It consists of about 900 distinct works, occupying (according to the manner of the country), nearly 10,000 volumes, and forming, undoubtedly, the most complete library of Chinese literature to be found in Europe.

His design, in bringing this library to England, was to offer it as a free gift to his country, provided it could be rendered the means of introducing into it the study, and of establishing, in one of its seats of literature, a school for the cultivation of the Chinese language.

Not meeting with encouragement in this primary design, he projected a society under the title of 'Language institution,' to whose apartments in Bartlett's buildings the library was transferred. The object of the institution was to give instruction to all persons desirous of obtaining a knowledge of the Chinese and other oriental languages; and gratuitously to such as intended to devote their attainments to the propagation of Christianity. Dr. Morrison himself attended at stated hours, and gave instructions in Chinese to several pupils.

After his return to China the institution languished, and at length was closed. The library, according to the doctor's direction, was placed, under the care of trustees, in the house of the London Missionary Society, where it still remains. The trustees have since made several efforts to dispose of it to the government, and other public bodies, in their own country, but without success. In the mean time the attention of the professor of Chinese in the college of France having been attracted to it, and a catalogue granted, overtures of purchase for the royal library of Paris were made, on the communication of which to the doctor, he declared it to be his determination that it should not be sent out of England.

In consequence of the death of Dr. Morrison, and the inadequate provision which is found for the support of his widow and seven children,—five under the age of ten years (and one only, his eldest son, provided for), it becomes imperative that this unique collection of Chinese literary productions should be rendered available to the better support of his family, and the education and future establishment of his children. To give effect to this interesting measure, by inviting an extended and liberal subscription for the purchase of the library, is the object of the present address.

It would derogate from the honor of the country, to doubt that a plan, intended to express public esteem for the memory, and benevolent feeling towards the family, of a man, whose name, whether he is regarded as the founder of the Anglo-Chinese College, the compiler of his great Chinese and English dictionary, the chief translator of the Holy Scriptures into Chinese, or for many years the able servant of the East India Company, as Chinese translator to their factory at Canton,—presents so many claims to the esteem of his countrymen, will meet with their cordial support.

From Dr. Morrison's original intention in bringing this library to England, it is concluded that a destination of it, which shall render it instrumental in promoting the study of the Chinese language in Great Britain, will erect the best monument

to his memory, and accomplish his patriotic desire thereby to confer an important benefit upon his country.

With this view, the friends of the deceased, who have undertaken to conduct the measure now submitted to public attention, beg respectfully to recommend; that, as the library will be obtained by voluntary donation, the trustees of the fund shall be authorized to present it, as a gift, to one of the most eminent literary institutions of the metropolis, the directors of which shall be willing to institute a Professorship of the Chinese Language. The increased interest which recent political events have given to the vast and important regions of the globe, over which that language and its cognate dialects prevail, seems to invite Great Britain, at this crisis, to the honor as well as the advantages of adopting a measure which, together with other important results, may yield facilities to the formation of future relations between the Chinese and British nations.

These views are submitted to the consideration of the public, in the confidence that they will meet with the concurrence and support of Englishmen of all ranks, at home and abroad, who feel it an honor done to their country, when unassuming merit, and disinterested labors for the good of mankind, meet from it a sure, though it may only be a posthumous reward.

The following gentlemen have consented to become trustees of the fund to be raised, until the library shall be legally conveyed to the institution which shall accede to the proposed terms.

Sir George Thomas Staunton, Bart.

Samuel Mills, Esq.

William Alers Hankey, Esq.

Heartily do we wish these gentlemen the fullest success in their undertaking. Should they succeed (and that they will we can hardly for a moment doubt), England, though not the British government, will have cleared herself from the stain that now rests upon her for her gross neglect of China. All will have been done that can at this moment be effected in England itself.

Even when this has been accomplished in England, however, neither the Home nor the Indian government will be thereby excused from duties still resting upon them. The Anglo-Chinese College at Malacca, founded by Dr. Morrison, was mainly established, and for some years wholly conducted, in dependence on private liberality. But it is contrary altogether to the course of human nature, to continue liberal to a distant institution, which is not open to the personal inspection of its supporters, and which necessarily can show but little difference from one year to another, unless it be in the greater or smaller number of its pupils, or the more or less encouraging state of its funds. Hence the means of the college became reduced; and mortality and illness among those in charge of it were at the same time greatly against its prosperity. The former difficulty was in some measure removed, by a grant from the Straits' government of \$100 monthly, and when this was soon after withdrawn, it was replaced by a similar grant from the factory in China, which is still continued (we are happy in being able for once to accord praise) by the British government. The latter difficulty was not so easily removeable, and the consequence has been, that the 'college' has never been able to rise above the character it had at first to assume, that of a merely elementary school. More ample funds, however, by enabling it to retain around it a greater number of instructors, would remove this difficulty, by providing against unexpected illness or death. We

deem it the undoubted duty of both the Home and the Indian governments to see that its funds are so increased, and so applied; and to encourage, by all means in their power, the acquisition by Englishmen of the language and dialects of China, as well as of a thorough insight into the habits and manners of the Chinese. For enabling them to make these acquisitions, the Anglo-Chinese College, liberally supported, would afford the greatest facilities. British officers in Burmah, A'sám, Nipál, &c., should have about them those who have made these acquisitions: so should officers also in the Straits of Malacca, where, at every station, multitudes of Chinese are settled in the country; and none will for a moment doubt that the superintendents of trade in China should have it in their power immediately to replace a translator, in case of the occurrence of any of those numerous casualties which flesh is heir to. Is death or permanent illness so improbable an event, that the British government should not take some steps for having successors in the Chinese department to those who are now serving in it?

We will merely add that these remarks apply in a lesser degree to the other side of the Atlantic, so far at least as commercial relations are concerned. And here we regret that we should have to mention a parallel case of illiberality to that of the British government in regard to Dr. Morrison's library. A few years since, a large collection of articles, illustrative of Chinese habits, and of Chinese arts and natural history, was carried from hence to the United States; and these are now, or lately were, mouldering in the custom-house, because the duty could not be remitted, even to allow them to be placed in a public room, for the benefit and amusement of the proprietor's fellow-townsmen!

Since writing the above, we have learned, that the Chinese library is now in the University College, London, and that a professor of Chinese has been appointed for a period of five years.

ART. IV. *Grammaire Turke; par Arthur Lumley Davids, membre de la Société Asiatique de Paris, &c. Traduite de l'Anglais par Madame Sarah Davids, mère de l'auteur.* London, 1836.

WHILE the preceding article was passing through the press, a correspondent put into our hands a short extract from the Foreign Quarterly Review, with some remarks of his own—bearing directly on the subject, which we have just had under consideration. The extract is from a review of the work, the title of which we have given above. The reviewer speaks in high terms of the grammar, and of its author, 'a youth of twenty, who, to the honor and disgrace of our literature, and endowed societies be it spoken, is our sole champion in Turkish

lore.' In the paragraph from which our Correspondent has made his quotation, the reviewer is speaking of those eastern 'tribes' from which the Turkish power is descended, and which yet wander through the wide plains of Central Asia, and the northern parts of the Chinese empire. He says—

"To Europe their existence is scarcely known; to France alone, and her science-seeking sons, their language has been an object of curiosity: while to England, whose interest is connected with theirs, for these last are but the steps to our eastern throne, the one and the other are a *tabula rasa*: neither national pride, rivalry, nor palpable inferiority, have roused us to emulate our active neighbors in this field. *De Guignes*, *Visdelou*, and *Remusat* have no competition to fear from English inquiry. History, antiquity, science, language, policy, all here are abandoned to the Gaul or the Muscovite. The interests we should consult, and the ties we should form, to balance the desert-tribes against their and our barbarian enemy, are beyond the sphere of an English vision: we prate of history, and disregard its sources; of philology, and derive it from derivation; of science, yet shun its research. *A nobleman is martyred for some chests of tea at Macao!* a soldier carries steam to the Indus; but the great wall and the Himmálaya are the boundaries of trade, and suffice, therefore, to bar our scientific and political vision of Tartary, shut up as before in the 'happy valley' of ignorance! *The Foreign Quarterly Review*, No. 35, p. 228.

With reference to this quotation, A Free Trader—and one of the oldest residents in Canton, a British subject, whose sentiments are not peculiar to himself—thus remarks, in his note:

"It is with shame, that any English gentleman can allude to the fact, that, while his government is annually drawing £4,000,000 of revenue from China, yet her statesmen and ministers, are more ignorant of the policy, temper, fears, and resources of that vast country than any book-student at Paris! And joined to this disgraceful ignorance is attached the usual concomitant of ignorance, a heartless obstinacy to all appeal by practical men, setting aside as waste paper their respectful petitions, until the evil itself is on them! I believe this conduct to be but in accordance with the nature of place-men; but how the good sense of the English, as a body, has submitted to such usage on the part of their public servants is to me unaccountable.

Your's, A FREE TRADER."

ART. V. *Burmah: British relations with that country; travels in the interior among the Singphos near A'sám and towards the Chinese frontier; revolution in the government.*

BURMAH is a country destined, if we mistake not, to form one of the bonds of connection, now rising into existence, between British India and China. A British resident has, for several years past, been stationed at the court of A'va; and, though regarded with no cordial

feelings, has been gradually gaining influence in the counsels of the nation. Last year the Burman government was induced to take measures to suppress the marauding incursions of its tributary Singphos into A'sám, and permitted the commander of colonel Burney's guard, captain Hannay, to accompany the officers who, for this purpose, were sent to the frontier. Mr. Griffith, an officer of high attainments in botany and other branches of natural science, was engaged, previously to March last, in researches among the Singphos and other wild tribes on the frontier of A'sám. In the early part of that month, he joined Mr. Bayfield, assistant to the resident at A'va, who had come with a Burman officer of rank to the Patkaè range of mountains, which forms the boundary between the Burman territories and the British province of A'sám; and Mr. Bayfield and Mr. Griffith then returned to A'va by the same route as had previously been traveled by captain Hannay. A journey has also been performed, lately, by captain Macleod, assistant to the commissioner in Tenasserim, towards the Chinese frontiers, through portions of the Siamese and Burman territories, respecting which we have not hitherto possessed any accurate intelligence.

Situated as Burmah is in regard to China, we cannot refuse to take an interest in her concerns, and particularly in her political and social revolutions. A revolution of the former kind has lately been effected, which, though it threatened, at one time, a long course of *civil* contention, has concluded, without a battle, and almost without bloodshed, in the removal of the old king and the establishment of his brother on the throne of Alompra. The fullest, and apparently most correct, details of the origin and events of this revolution are contained in the Bengal Hurkaru of the 14th and 15th of July. The principal individuals who have figured in the drama are, a brother of the ex-king, prince Tharwáadí; his sister the princess of Pagán; the king's favorite queen, a woman of low origin, daughter of the governor of a jail; and her brother, who enjoyed the title of Menthagí, or great prince. The king himself, his son by another queen, and his other brothers, of whom there are several besides Tharáwadí, have not been actors, but mere pageants in the scene. The king has suffered under mental debility since the year 1831, and being thereby incapacitated for the business of government, the power has been assumed by the queen and her brother, in whose hands the king has been a mere instrument. The king's son, although of age and therefore entitled to the rank of ain-y-meng, crown prince, or heir to the throne, has not been admitted to it; and he, in common with his uncles and aunts, has, since 1831, been prevented from ever seeing his father.

The brothers and sisters of the king, although they had been subjected to many insults, yet had met with no violence from Menthagí, until the night of the 21st of February last, when the house of the princess of Pagán was surrounded by armed men, sent to search for one Ngáyé, an alleged agent of the prince Tharáwadí. The princess escaped from her own to her brother's house; and, although the bro-

ther solemnly denied all knowledge of Ngáyé's place of concealment, his house was similarly invested on the 24th. His people fired on and dispersed the party sent to search; and, while Menthagí and the queen, terrified by the reports of the fugitives, were, with fear and trembling, awaiting his appearance at the palace, he effected a peaceful retreat to Tsagáin, a town on the opposite side of the Iráwadí. While the dominant party had at their command 4000 or 5000 troops, the prince had not as many hundreds. As soon as his departure was discovered, his house was forthwith plundered; and his sister, the princess of Pagán, was imprisoned and loaded with irons. As an excuse for this conduct, it was alleged by Menthagí and the queen, that they had long known it to be Tharáwadí's purpose to usurp the throne. In this there is little of verisimilitude; nor does there seem to be any reason to suppose, that such a purpose was entertained by prince Tharáwadí, until from Tsagáin he had removed to Moutshobo, the birth-place of Alompra, distant about thirty miles from A'va. At Moutshobo, many of the people resorted to him. After having acted for sometime solely on the defensive, he at length began to act offensively, and shortly became master of several large and well-garrisoned towns. At this period, the British resident endeavored to induce Menthagí to propose an amicable arrangement; but all was in vain until they were driven to the last extremity, when, having at length communicated the state of affairs to the king, the whole court applied to the British resident to intermeddle. It was now, however, too late. Although the resident, at very considerable personal risk, proceeded to Tharáwadí's, camp, and, as it is said, obtained from the prince a solemn promise to spare life, yet he could not induce him to listen to any terms short of absolute submission. The result was that the Menthagí and twelve ministers yielded themselves up to Tharáwadí's eldest son, commanding at Tsagáin,—the king and queen were separated,—and the prince's second son was sent to take charge of the palace. On the 9th April, prince Tharáwadí, himself reached Tsagáin, and shortly after the British resident had an interview with him, at the prince's own desire. Flushed with success, the prince now seemed little disposed to listen to any remonstrance, or even to adhere to his promises: on the 20th, however, he yielded so far as to release several state prisoners, giving them their freedom, but leaving them utterly destitute. Some of the most obnoxious were executed with great cruelty. The prince does not appear to have taken up his abode in A'va, to which place he has a superstitious aversion, he talks of deserting it for Moutshobo, a place twenty miles distant from the river, and in no respect fitted to become the capital. Others say that 'Kyouk-myoun' is to be the new capital. We do not know whether to regard these two accounts as contradictory, or to consider the two names common to the same place.

Since the above was written, reports have reached us of an anticipated war between the British government and Burmah, the new king, excited with his easy success, being vain enough to hope, that he can wrest the conquered provinces of Arracan from British power.

We trust this is not the case; for we desire to see the influence of western powers in the east depending on their superior knowledge, rather than on their superior prowess in arms. If, however, war breaks out, the effect of it will be to bring the British posts still nearer to those of China, towards the frontier of Yunnan.

ART. VI. *Practical lessons in sacrificial rites, given at the public literary hall in the department of Kwangchow, by two professors from the Board of Rites in Peking, under the direction of the commissioner of territory and finance.*

THE present incumbent in the office of pooching sze, the head of the territorial and financial branch of the provincial government, caused no small consternation among gamblers, and others of like occupation, on his arrival in Canton, about two years ago. He is a Mantchou. According to current reports, he is tall and well formed; and in his official capacity, watchful, impartial, proof against bribes, and easily moved by persons in distress. His excellency's tenderness is so unlike what is customary in official persons, that the common people have not been contented with the usual epithets of father and mother of the people, but have dubbed him with the title of "grandmother." Once on a former occasion, he filled the same office which he now holds, in this province; and, in the ordinary course of governmental honors, was raised from the rank of pooching sze to that of lieutenant governor, and sent to Keängse. There he so far yielded to the solicitations of a young friend, a magistrate, as to receive him in the capacity of a pupil; for which act, it being in opposition to the laws, he was degraded, and sent again to Canton to fill his former station. Here, among other things, the duties of his office require him to watch over the manners of the people, and to preserve their morals. A sincere wish faithfully to discharge his trust, united, no doubt, with a desire to regain the imperial favor, or some other equally cogent reasons, have induced the worthy commissioner to make special efforts to improve the manners of his "grandchildren," by procuring two able instructors for those who stand forth before them as the exemplars of propriety and as guides in the performance of sacred rites. The evidence of such wish and desire is exhibited in the following proclamation.

"Altsingah, by imperial appointment territorial and financial commissioner, &c., in the province of Kwangtung, hereby invites attention to the practice of sacrificial rites.

"Whereas the ceremonial observances, prescribed by the ritual for the temples of the sages, ought not to be neglected; and whereas in this province they have been long falling into desuetude, and are now in a very low condition; therefore, when about again to return to this place, with special care I selected, from those attending at the Board of Rites, two professors, not re-

garding as an obstacle the long distance which they have had to travel. These professors I have sent to the literary hall of Kwangchow foo, there, in the temple dedicated to the sages, to give instruction in the performance of sacred rites, with the purpose of adding thereto a glorious dignity. Hereby information is given to the masters of music and ceremonies in Canton, who may wish to improve their practice, that each attendant on these lessons shall receive for his encouragement one mace [about 15 cents] per day. Be carefull to avoid sloth. Earnestly, diligently, fulfill my wishes.

“Taoukwang, 17th year, 4th month, 3d day.” (April 7th, 1837.)

A few explanatory remarks will enable our readers to understand the nature and object of these ‘lessons.’ In every district and department of the empire there is a public hall, called *heökung*, in which the chief local officers are required to offer sacrifices, and do homage to the ancient sages and emperors. The chief provincial officers are required to officiate in the metropolis of the province in which they reside. On particular occasions, fixed by the ritual or by custom, they are required to proceed to the temples in state, and there individually go through the prescribed ceremonies—offering incense, kneeling, bowing, &c. In the performance of these politico-religious rites, the officers of government, the ministers of the state religion, are aided by two classes of men, one called *yöśäng*, and the other, *woosäng*,—titles which the English language has no words to express. The phrase, ‘master of ceremonies,’ conveys the general sense of the words; but a more correct idea will be obtained from a brief description of the respective rank and duties of these professors of music and ceremonies. They are literary men, who have obtained the degree of *sewtsae*, and are appointed to this service by the chief provincial officers. Their rank is respectable. They constitute two classes, each containing ordinarily not less than sixteen persons, who are arranged into courses, eight in a course. Two courses, one in each department, officiate in concert, which gives sixteen as the full complement of performers for a single service. Their situation and duties in the temples is not unlike that of the Levites in the ancient Jewish service; while on the magistrates devolve the duties of the priesthood.

The *yöśäng* are musicians. During the time of service they play appropriate airs on their ‘eight kinds of instruments,’ one or more of them, in the mean time, performing a recitative. This music,—very unlike any thing European,—requires careful attention. At Peking the cultivation of it is entrusted to a Board of musicians, attached to the Lé Poo. In Canton, except on occasions like the present, music receives no patronage from government; and the *yöśäng* are left to seek instruction wherever they can obtain it.

The *woosäng*, by word of mouth, by a wand, or by walking to and fro, lead the services of the official worshipers. While the music is playing, every advance and retreat, every turning, kneeling, or bowing, is done at the word of one of the *woosäng*, who is appropriately the master of ceremonies, and whose stentorian voice is not unlike that of command in a military drill. A complete service occupies forty

minutes or an hour, during which not a word is uttered nor a voice heard, except from the yōsang and woosang. The worshipers stand erect, march, countermarch, kneel, rise, bow, &c., then make their exit; and the performance is ended.

Such, in brief, are the ceremonies, which the worthy commissioner wishes to improve. The two professors, whose family names are Soo and Le, are still in Canton: the first is a native of Soochow in Keängsoo; the second is from the province of Cheihle. They are attached to the Board of Rites, in the same capacity as the yōsang and woosang are to the public hall in Canton. The attendance on their lectures here, is said to have been neither punctual nor numerous. What improvements have been made in the practice of ceremonial rites, remains to be seen; no doubt, however, the commissioner will receive a due reward for his great solicitude and munificence in promoting the worship of the dead!

ART. VII. *Journal of Occurrences. Return of the Morrison from Lewchew and Japan; of the Raleigh, from Fuhkeën and the Bonin islands; Lintin anchorage resumed; deaths; the Siamese navy; Lahore and Cábul; Persia.*

SINCE our last number went to press, more than two months have elapsed, but without any very important local events, so far, at least, as the Chinese are concerned. The ship Morrison returned on the 29th of August. A full account of her voyage will be published in our pages. H. B. M. ship Raleigh, after inquiring for the Fairy's crew at Fuhchow, touched at Lewchew and the Bonins; but we have no account of what she effected. On reaching Macao, she was immediately dispatched to Calcutta. The discussions, on the part of government, about sycee and opium still continue; but 'the fleet,' in the mean time, has returned quietly to Lintin, the prohibitory edicts notwithstanding.

Deaths. The Peking Gazettes notice the decease of the general commandant of Fuhchow foo, and of Yang Yuchun, the retired governor of Shense and Kansuh. Both are praised as able and faithful military men; both had seen service in the Mohammedan wars. His majesty's obituary notice of Yang Yuchun is so much more diffuse and laudatory than usual, that we must allow ourselves to make some extracts from it. 'Since the reign of Keënlung,' says his majesty, 'when he took his second military degree, he has diligently worked his way as a soldier; he never failed to be immediately present wherever military service was to be seen. For his suppression of revolvers at Hwäching, in the reign of Keäking, our august father conferred on him the title of *nan*, with various honorary privileges. After our own accession, we conferred further honors, especially after the Mohammedan war, in which he himself brought four cities back to their duty. From the office of provincial commander-in-chief, he was raised to the governorship of Shense and Kansuh. His able government of the frontier was of advantage; his upright conduct, and his strictness combined with kindness, are universally known; and his unwavering fidelity rendered him an all-important member of the body politic. When, at the age nearly of 80 years, he requested leave to retire, we, unwilling wholly to refuse his request, commanded his presence at court; and to manifest our regard for a meritorious servant, we raised him to the rank of a *how* of the first class. We then permitted him to retire on the full pay of his office.' The rest of the document records the grief of his majesty on hearing of his servant's death, and gives presents of money for the funeral expenses, remits all offences, &c., nearly in the usual terms. The eldest son of the

deceased, Yang Kwöching, himself of high civil rank, is to succeed to the title, *how*, which we may render by that of 'earl';—*nan* may be rendered by 'baronet.'

Siam. The Singapore Free Press of 27th of July, notices the arrival at that port of his Siamese majesty's frigate "Conqueror," a vessel of 600 tons, just launched from the docks at Chántibun. She is armed with forty guns, of what calibre is not said; but, notwithstanding her warlike equipment and name, she is at present to be employed only as a peaceful carrier of the goods of his golden-footed majesty's subjects. Another vessel of 1000 tons has been laid down, and is to be similarly equipped and employed. The Malay pirates, expelled by the vessels of his Britannic majesty, from the immediate neighborhood of Singapore, have taken refuge in the northern part of the gulf of Siam. War-boats have been dispatched against them by the Siamese government, but, as may be supposed, to no purpose—neither party having any desire for too near a contact. It is said that the king has directed the phrákláng, or foreign minister, to address the Straits government on the subject, requesting their aid in extirpating the pirates. We are glad to find so haughty a potentate as the Siáyuthayan monarch entering into an unsought communication with a subordinate European government.

Lahore and Cábul. Every one who has had enjoyed the pleasure of an introduction by lieut. Burnes, to Ranjít Singh, and to the brother-chiefs of Pesháwur and Cábul, must feel some degree of interest in the proceedings of these potentates. The mahárájá of Lahore, and the chief of Cábul are now at war, and the following correspondence has lately passed between them. The veteran mahárájá writes: "I have always considered you in the light of a son, and have therefore directed my officers to refrain from attacking Jellahabád [the eastern frontier of Cábul]; but you, like an ungrateful child, have appeared contumaciously before me. It has always been remarked, that the weak are peevish and the strong magnanimous. Notwithstanding what has passed, if you will send your son with valuable presents, and some excellent horses, your faults shall be forgiven. Should you refuse, my armies shall advance to the very heart of your country." To this Dost Máhomed replies: "Every one knows who is weak and who is powerful in this part of the world. God, of his exelling bounty, has bestowed upon you the wealth, the power, and sovereignty over nearly five provinces of the Panjáb: many have died of grief because they failed of obtaining even a tenth part of what you enjoy. After such a gift from Providence, of what value can Pesháwur be to you, the whole revenue of which would hardly pay the salaries of your servants for one day; in subduing Pesháwur, you have forgotten your original promise, and have not acted according to agreement with me, nor with the kindness and consideration you have otherwise shown to me. God knows how long, and with what success, I with so little power and authority—can contend against you; but Pesháwur is the place where my ancestors have lived and died: I shall follow their example." Dost Máhomed's forces were in the first instance successful; but could not stand against disciplined troops commanded by a French officer. Generals Ventura, Allard, and Court, have all been sent to the field of action; and Dost Máhomed had lost a son in battle. Down to the latest date, the mahárájá's troops seem to have acted only on the defensive.

Persia. A correspondent of the Calcutta Courier mentions the establishment of a lithographic press at Téherán, and the publication of two numbers of a monthly journal, under the auspices of Máhomed Sháh. 'News from various quarters of the globe are given in the columns of the new journal, which comprises twelve pages. The emperor of China is represented to have attained to his sixty-fifth [fifty-fifth] year, and to have declared his will, that, on his death, the extensive empire of China should be ruled by the empress, until when the heir apparent to the imperial throne shall come to maturity. Máhomed A'li Pásha, the renowned potentate of Egypt, is said to have nominated the son of Ibrahim Pásha his successor. He is spoken of in terms of great commendation, and held in high admiration for his encouragement of the useful arts in Egypt.'—We have quoted the passage referring to China, to show that some interest is taken in its affairs by nations at the western extremity of Asia, not as having the slightest belief in the truth of the representation therein contained. Modern China is too much led by precedent for the emperor to place his empress on the dragon's seat, even as a temporary occupier of it.



